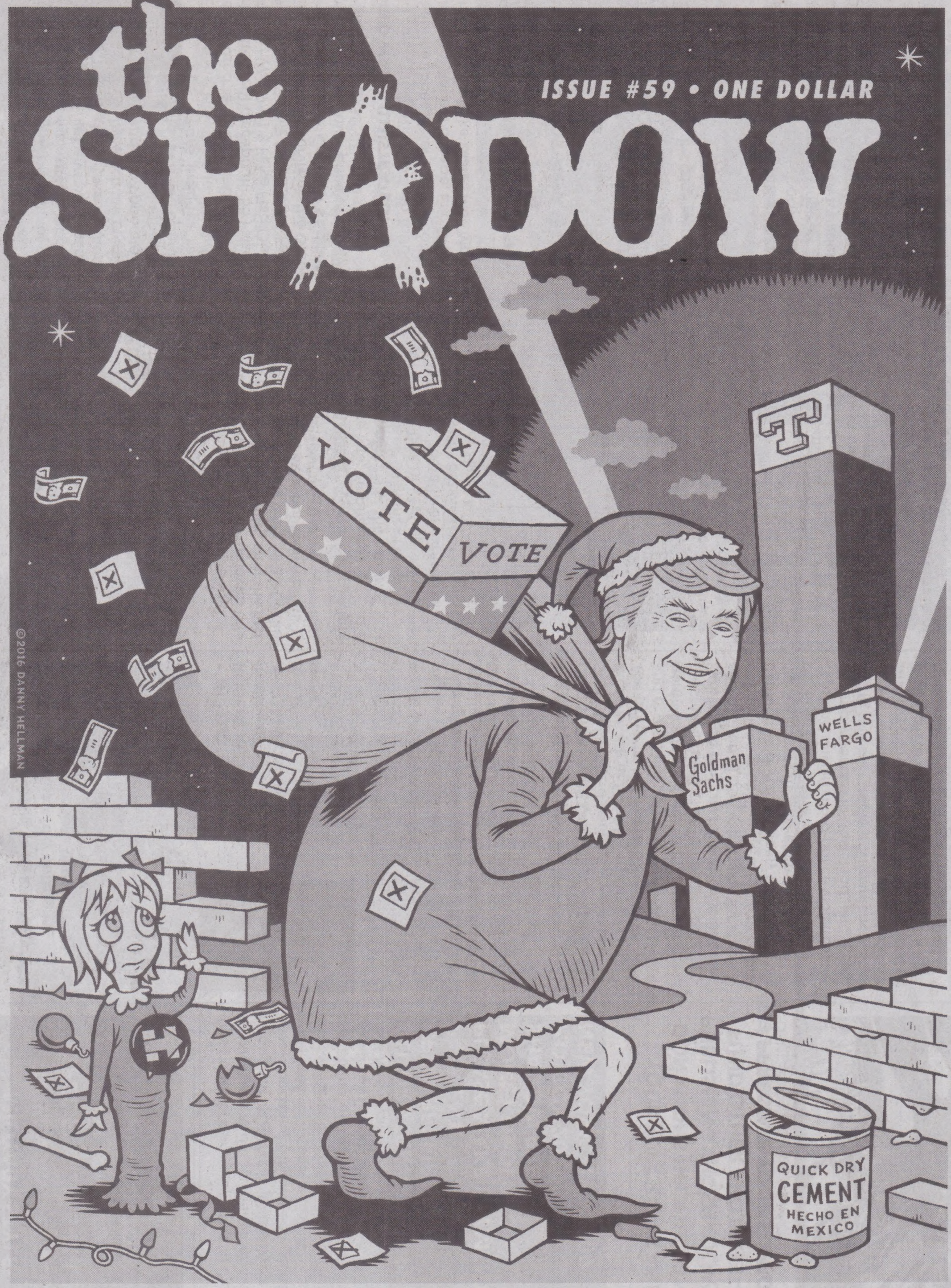
MARTIN LUTHER KING ASSASSINS REVEALED!

the SHADOW

ISSUE #59 • ONE DOLLAR



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THE ELECTION WAS STOLEN!!

By Greg Palast

[Friday, November 11, 2016] Before a single vote was cast, the election was fixed by GOP and Trump operatives.

Starting in 2013 – just as the Supreme Court gutted the Voting Rights Act – a coterie of Trump operatives, under the direction of Kris Kobach, Kansas Secretary of State, created a system to purge 1.1 million Americans of color from the voter rolls of GOP-controlled states.

The system, called Crosscheck, is detailed in my August 24, 2016 Rolling Stone report "The GOP's Stealth War on Voters" [http://www. rollingstone.com/politics/features/the-gops-stealth-war-against-voters-w435890].

For example, in the swing state of North Carolina, it was reported that 6,700 Black folk lost their registrations because their registrations had been challenged by a group called Voter Integrity Project (VIP). VIP sent letters to households in Black communities marked "do not forward." If the voter had moved within the same building, or somehow did not get their mail (e.g. if their name was not on a mail report the ballots that are rejected and tossed out -- because, after all, as Joe Biden says, "Our elections are the envy of the world." Only in Kazakhstan, Joe.

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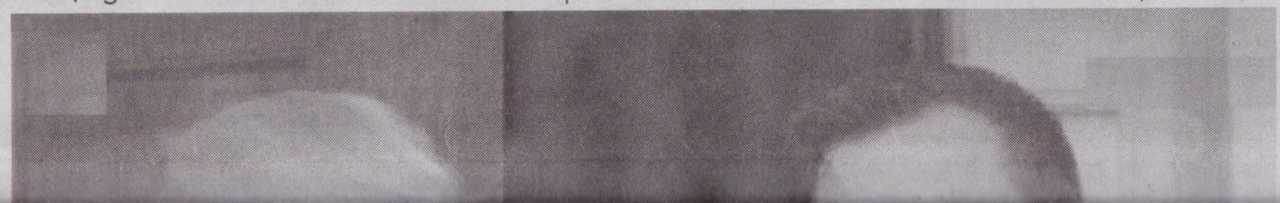

vote?" What they don't ask, and can't, is, "Was your vote counted?"

In 2000, in Florida, GOP Secretary of State Katherine Harris officially rejected 181,173 ballots, as "spoiled" because their chads were hung and other nonsense excuses. Those ballots overwhelmingly were marked for Al Gore. The exit polls included those 181,173 people who thought they had voted – but their vote didn't count. In other words, the exit polls accurately reflected whom the voters chose, not what Katherine Harris chose.

In 2004, a similar number of votes were invalidated

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Crosscheck in action:

Trump victory margin in Michigan:	**13,107**
Michigan Crosscheck purge list:	**449,922**
Trump victory margin in Arizona:	**85,257**
Arizona Crosscheck purge list:	**270,824**
Trump victory margin in North Carolina:	**177,008**
North Carolina Crosscheck purge list:	**589,393**

On Election Day, Tuesday, November 8, we saw Crosscheck elect a Republican Senate and, as President, Donald Trump. The electoral putsch was aided by nine other methods of attacking the right to vote of Black, Latino and Asian American voters, methods detailed in my book and film [The Best Democracy Money Can Buy-ed.], including "caging," "purging," blocking legitimate registrations, and wrongly shunting millions to "provisional" ballots that will never be counted.

Trump signaled the use of "Crosscheck" when he claimed the election is "rigged" because "people are voting many, many times." His operative Kobach, who also advised Trump on building a wall on the southern border, devised a list of 7.2 million "potential" double voters -- 1.1 million of which were removed from the voter rolls by Tuesday. The list is loaded overwhelmingly with voters of color and the poor.

Those accused of criminal double voting include, for example, Donald Alexander Webster Jr. of Ohio who is accused of voting a second time in Virginia as Donald EUGENE Webster SR.

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The 6,700 identified in two counties were returned to the rolls through a lawsuit. However, there was not one mention in the press that VIP was also behind Crosscheck in North Carolina; nor that its leader, Col. Jay Delancy, whom I've tracked for years, has previously used this vote thievery, known as "caging," for years.

But, the evidence already in our hands makes me sadly confident in saying, Jim Crow, not the voters, elected Mr. Trump.

What about those exit polls?

Exit polls are the standard by which the US State Department measures the honesty of foreign elections. Exit polling is, historically, deadly accurate. The bane of pre election polling is that pollsters must adjust for the likelihood of a person voting. Exit polls solve the problem.

But three times in US history, pollsters report the ballots that are rejected and tossed out -- because, after all, as Joe Biden says, "Our elections are the envy of the world." Only in Kazakhstan, Joe.

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PRESIDENT-ELECT DONALD TRUMP PRESENTS KRIS KOBACH AS POTENTIAL SECRETARY OF HOMELAND SECURITY.

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Notably, two weeks after the 2004 US election, the US State Department refused to recognize Ukraine election results because the official polls contradicted the exit polls.

And here we go again. 2016: Hillary wins among those queried as they exit the polling station -- yet Trump is declared winner in GOP controlled swing states. And, once again, the expert pollsters are forced to apologize -- when they should be screaming, "Fraud! Here's the evidence the vote was fixed!"

Now there's a new trope to explain away the exit polls that gave Clinton the win. Supposedly, Trump voters were ashamed to say they voted for Trump. Really? ON WHAT PLANET? For Democracy Now! and Rolling Stone, I was out in several swing states. In Ohio, yes, a Black voter may have been reluctant to state support for Trump. But a white voter in the exurbs of Dayton, where the Trump signs grew on lawns like weeds, and the pews of the evangelical mega-churches were slathered with Trump and GOP brochures, risked getting spat on if they even whispered, "Hillary."

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[Note: Watch the four minute video summary of Crosscheck [http://thebestdemocracymoneycanbuy.com/petition/]. The investigation and explanation of these methods of fixing the vote can be found in my book and film, The Best Democracy Money Can Buy: a Tale of Billionaires & Ballot Bandits (2016) – Request a screener. No, not everyone on the list loses their vote. But this was not the only racially poisonous tactic that accounted for this purloined victory by Trump and GOP candidates.]

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There is still much investigation to do. For example, there are millions of "provisional" ballots, "spoiled" (invalidated) ballots and ballots rejected from the approximately 30 million mailed in. Unlike reporting in Britain, US media does not

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But three times in US history, pollsters have had to publicly flagellate themselves for their "errors." In 2000, exit polls gave Al Gore the win in Florida; in 2004, exit polls gave Kerry the win in Ohio, and now, in swing states, exit polls gave the presidency to Hillary Clinton.

So how could these multi million dollar Ph.d directed statisticians with decades of experience get exit polls so wrong?

Answer: they didn't. The polls in Florida in 2000 were accurate. That's because exit pollsters can only ask, "How did you vote?" and then adjust the numbers to what Katherine Harris chose.

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This country is violently divided, but, in the end, there simply aren't enough white guys to elect Trump nor a Republican Senate. The only way they could win was to eliminate the votes of non white guys -- and they did so by tossing Black provisional ballots into the dumpster, ID laws that turn away students -- the list goes on. It's a web of complex obstacles to voting by citizens of color topped by that lying spider, Crosscheck.

SHADOW EDITORIALS

DO NOT DESPAIR!
We Will Rise Above Donald Trump

Donald Trump has many earmarks of a genuine fascist. His pseudo working class ideology, mixed with traditional right wing claptrap, hearkens back to Italian dictator Benito Mussolini. Trump encourages his followers to believe that if we only get rid of foreigners, everybody will have a job, which is not very different from German Chancellor/dictator Adolf Hitler telling shopkeepers that they would all prosper once he got rid of their Jewish competitors. Trump has followers like the Italian Black Shirts and the German Brown Shirts that terrorize Muslims and Hispanics and anti Trump protesters. The Trumpites have not yet been issued shirts – what color will their leader choose for them?

Trump was not elected because of any ingrained fascist qualities of the American people, or even of American White people. He does have a core of die hard alt right bigots very close to him, but a main reason that he was elected is that Hillary Clinton suppressed any alternatives to herself, and thereby to Trump, because her only strategy was to blackmail the electorate with the possibility of a Trump presidency. That strategy back-fired because Clinton was a terrible candidate and failed to qualify even as an acceptable "lesser evil".

Only Bernie Sanders addressed the problems faced by workers, in particular, the export of jobs. Only Sanders questioned the dangerous policies that the US has been following in the Middle East. E mails hacked by Wikileaks showed that the Democratic National Committee, controlled by the Clinton machine, did not give Sanders a ghost of a chance. But, once Clinton had stolen the primary from Sanders, Democrats did not have a ghost of a chance, because Clinton felt entitled to be coronated and did not respect the out Black and Hispanic and young voters because she is so obviously a passionless tool of the ruling class.

But enough about Hillary – what are we going to do about Donald Dump? Decent human beings of America should not lose hope. We have been through Presidents Richard Nixon and Ronald Reagan, and Mayor Giuliani here in New York City. We have resisted and we have survived. Believe it or not, the spread of awareness has improved people's minds over the years. Many more challenge racism, sexism, and homophobia than in the time of European fascist dictators and of Nixon and Reagan.

Trump's rise to power may be seen as a backlash against a country that has been getting better in some ways. The acceptance of legal marijuana and the rights of gay people are not meaningless fads, but evidence of an opening of the American mind. Some psychologically-constipated people just cannot handle progress – they will lash out by electing people like Trump, but they ultimately will not win because history is against them.

Trump is a hateful person who makes enemies easily and has a tenuous relationship with his allies – hence his reliance on his family circle for support. His history bristles with scandal – nobody gets as rich as he is without literal skeletons in the closet. Richard Nixon was brought down by investigative journalists – we at The SHADOW will be proud to be among the army of snoops and researchers who will finally get the goods on Trump and drive him out of office.

We must make this nation ungovernable via protest and rejection of everything that this bigot stands for. We must keep our eyes on the prize – let us imagine him up in the helicopter, waving bye bye to the

OOPS! THEY DID IT TO US AGAIN!!
Trump "Wins," We Lose

In the aftermath of the latest presidential "election" farce, there is still a lot for folks to process. Mainly, HOW THE HELL could Donald Trump of all people be elected president??

Early on in the "race", we were given HOPE in the form of 73-year old "Socialist" Vermont Senator Bernie Sanders, whose speeches and rallies were attended by THOUSANDS of people of all ages (mostly young) all over the country, far outnumbering those of his opponents. Unlike other candidates, Sanders spoke plain truth about real and important issues. He gave folks hope for genuine positive change, with solutions to real problems at a critical point in world history. Then, after channeling all of that hope energy, Sanders passed the baton to Hillary Clinton, in order to STOP TRUMP.

During and after the Democratic primaries in the months before Election Day, there was ZERO media mention of purged voter rolls, uncounted and tossed "provisional" and "affidavit" ballots and other sneaky shit, like anonymous un-elected and therefore un-accountable "delegates" and "super-delegates" (to whom NO ONE had delegated their vote!) pre-deciding to give Clinton their votes, regardless of and over-riding the popular vote that gave Sanders more wins than Clinton across the country.

We'll never know whether or not Sanders was threatened and/or was paid off to get out of the race without challenging the primary results (or running as an independent) and then campaign for Clinton, but that's what he did.

Just as the government uses FEAR in order to get folks to DEMAND their own repression, Trump, a long time friend and supporter of the Clintons (do a web image search and see!), was happy to be used as the frightening alternative to Clinton.

Unlike the meaningful and informative debates between Sanders and Clinton, in Greg Palast throughout this issue], Donald Trump has claimed victory. He has already made his intentions known by the dregs he has selected as appointees to various posts and to his cabinet of advisors. The Robber Barons of yesteryear will have nothing on the group of pirates taking office on January 20 that will rape and loot this country like no one has seen before. IF we let them.

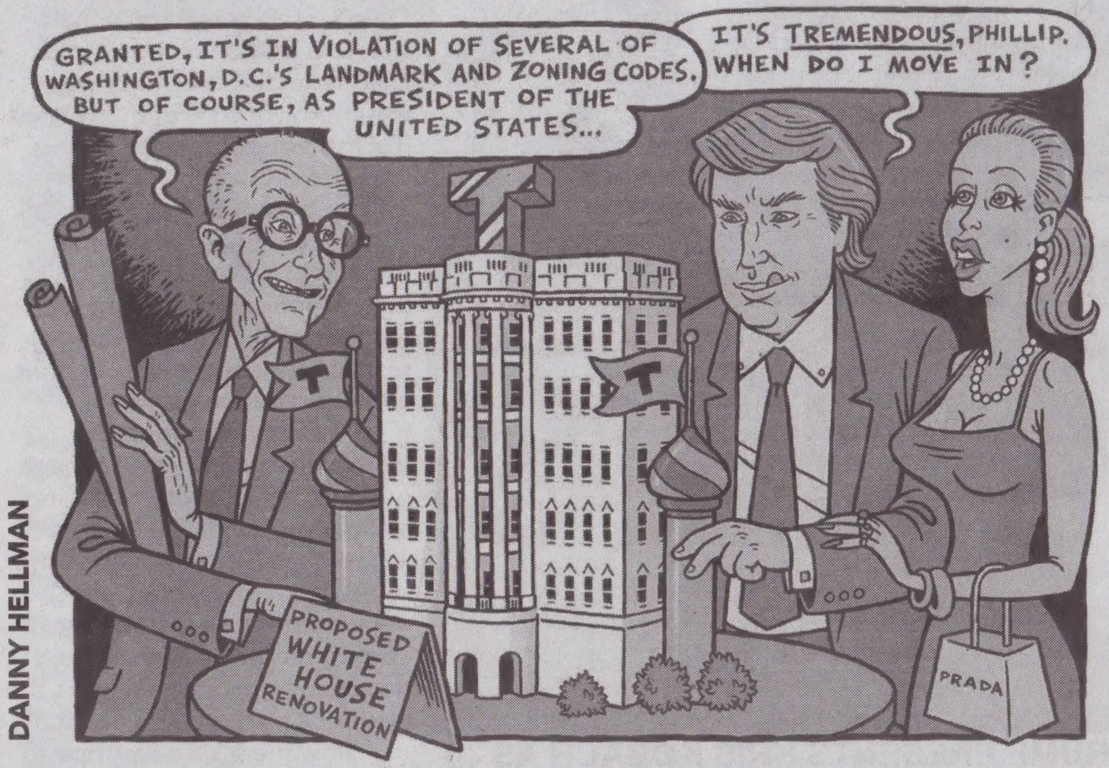
THERE ARE SEVERAL METHODS BY WHICH VOTES ARE MANIPULATED, NULLIFIED, BY-PASSED AND OTHERWISE FUCKED WITH:

- **Purging of voter rolls of ethnic minorities with collusion of election officials**
- **Providing "provisional ballots" that are not counted to those whose names are missing from voter rolls**
- **Skewing results from electronic voting machines**
- **Politically-appointed un-elected anonymous "delegates" and members of the "electoral college" selecting candidates, with no regard for the "popular" vote**

There are no elections, just SELECTIONS. And we the people aren't to be trusted by the billionaire ruling class to make the sorts of decisions that might change the prevailing paradigm. Complete corporate power was attained long ago. The powers that be are not going to allow any real candidate of change to

Sanders, Democrats did not have a ghost of a chance, because Clinton felt entitled to be coronated and did not respect the people by addressing issues that were important to them. She failed to bring

that this bigot stands for. We must keep our eyes on the prize – let us imagine him up in the helicopter, waving bye bye to the presidency, like Nixon in 1974.



DANNY HELLMAN

the frightening alternative to Clinton.

Unlike the meaningful and informative debates between Sanders and Clinton, in which Sanders clearly beat Clinton, exposing her Wall Street connections as he promised to go after banksters, the presidential "debates" between Clinton and Trump contained NOTHING of substance.

It was the warm + fuzzy female vs the coarse + abrasive male, with NO solutions offered. NO innovative ideas to address critical issues facing our country. NOTHING about improving the quality of our lives. Just personal attacks back and forth, staged like a phoney wrestling match with no physical contact. More accurately, the debates were a "Fear Factor" show, with Clinton basing her entire platform on trying to scare people about Trump as president, while Trump was content simply playing his role as ruffian candidate, offering nothing either. These "debates" were an insult to anyone with a brain who could see through this charade.

So, now, thanks to an effective campaign that had nothing to do with running on any issues, but which had everything to do with STEALING the vote [See reports by

ago. The powers that be are not going to allow any real candidate of change to change the status quo.

If you buy into this insulting presidential election farce, you are most likely supporting those in power by patronizing their businesses, consuming their products and/or watching their media, all of which keeps them in power over you.

WAKE UP!! Revolution starts at home: How you live your life. Where you spend your money. What you support and what you BOYCOTT. Information you share with others. Creating an alternative lifestyle. Staying out of debt. Not consuming crap you don't need, that you cannot afford and that you should not have in the first place.

Start with not allowing this puppet show they present every 4 years to cause you to argue with your friends and allies. Share the TRUTH far and wide. Do not empower them any further by participating in their DELUSION OF DEMOCRACY.

Remember: They only have as much power over us as we ALLOW them to have. And, there are more of US than there are of THEM!!

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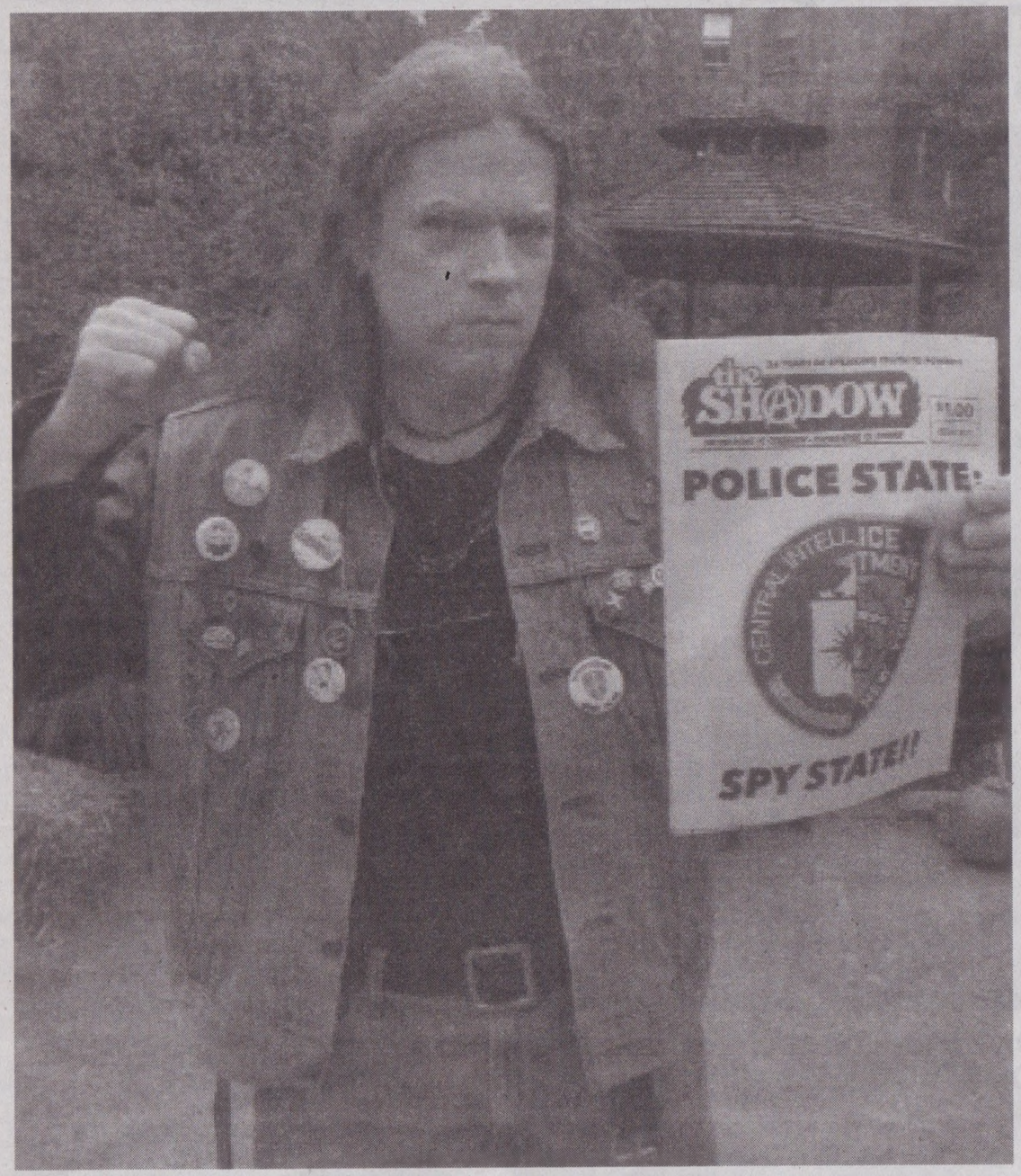
[William Moses Kunstler: 1919-1995]

THE SHADOW NEVER SLEEPS!!

BOB McGLYNN: 1956-2016



Bob McGlynn, a longtime fighter, organizer and visionary in New York City's anarchist scene who became known internationally for his solidarity work with activists across the Iron Curtain, died of a heart attack on August 23 at his home in Yonkers. He was 60 years old.

With his long hair, army boots, sleeve-

had greater visibility, and were less vulnerable to being interned or "disappeared" by Soviet authorities.

In 1986, in the wake of the Chernobyl nuclear power plant disaster, Bob and his NY Trust Group collaborator Ann Marie Hendrickson joined with two activists from the UK to travel to Moscow – smuggling

ERIC WILLIAMS: 1952-2016

Renowned New York City journalist Eric Williams died in September, reportedly of complications from COPD. Eric had returned to NYC from Melbourne, Australia, and was a contributor to Sahara Reporters, a collective covering news from an African perspective.

Eric was born in the Bronx in 1952 and grew up in part on the Lower East Side. He graduated from Franconia College in New Hampshire with a degree in English and studied broadcasting with Community Film Workshop Council, beginning his career as a television reporter with WYTV in Youngstown, Ohio and West Palm Beach, Florida. Returning to New York in 1986 after a stint with National Public Radio, he reported for iconic community radio station WBAI and the Pacifica radio network. His relationship with the WBAI news would continue until his death.

Eric exhibited his skill as a writer and correspondent in eight years of covering the corrupt and violent term of Mayor Rudolph Giuliani. It was in the newsroom of WBAI where we met late one Saturday night.

In 1993 Eric became a reporter for NYC radio stations WBLS and WLIB. Reporting from a coveted desk in the press room at City Hall, Eric's stories were always right on. His investigations exposed the racist underbelly of Giuliani who was at the time touted as "America's Mayor."

On September 11, 2001, Eric was in the field near the World Trade Center towers as both collapsed, sending thousands to their deaths. Cell phone service was extremely spotty, so we patched him to the station's on-air line though a three way call from a land line at the Yippie Museum at 9 Bleecker Street. Eric's report from beneath the towers as they disintegrated and his nearly 8 hour on-the-street coverage, broadcast as it happened,

published.

Eric loved music and was responsible for coverage and support of the Charlie Parker Jazz Festival held every year in Tompkins Square Park.

He also produced ground breaking profiles of up and coming musicians and hosted a WBAI program focused on Brazilian music.

Eric was widely recognized for his journalism. He was awarded the New York City Council Proclamation for Journalistic Excellence in 2008, the Society of Silurians Excellence in Journalism for Community Service Award in 2007 and a New York State Senate Proclamation for Journalistic Excellence for raising awareness of Inflammatory Breast Cancer in 2009. He also shared the personal respect and love of the news professionals he worked with every day.

Eric's New York City cool, from his life growing up in the Bronx and Lower East Side, contributed to his success as a reporter. He treated everyone he met with respect, courtesy and love. Eric's brotherhood is a high point of my life and I will never forget him.

Buddy, your spirit lives.

--Paul DeRienzo

[For more on Eric's journalistic career, go to: https://www.linkedin.com/in/eric williams 23a9ab62-Ed.]

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With his long hair, army boots, sleeveless denim jacket and prize fighter's build, Bob could be taken for a biker. But he was motivated by an intense idealism.

Bob's long and varied activist career began in the early 1980s, with Brooklyn Anti Nuclear Group (BANG), which organized to shut down the Indian Point nuclear power plant north of New York City. His artistically crude but politically sophisticated cartoons gave the BANG newsletter a punk aesthetic.

In this same period, Bob began working as a bicycle messenger – which also thrust him into political activity. Faced with police harassment and city government attempts to oppressively regulate cyclists, in 1982 he organized the first bike messengers' union in New York, the Independent Couriers Association. In 1987, when Mayor Ed Koch issued an order banning bicycles from three Midtown avenues during working hours, messengers repeatedly rode en masse in defiance. Bob was of course on the frontlines of this successful struggle – the ban was overturned as unenforceable. Bob proudly called himself the "King of All Bicycle Messengers."

Bob was again facing off with police in the streets when the city attempted to impose a curfew in Tompkins Square Park in 1988. That set off three years of class

had greater visibility, and were less vulnerable to being interned or "disappeared" by Soviet authorities.

In 1986, in the wake of the Chernobyl nuclear power plant disaster, Bob and his NY Trust Group collaborator Ann Marie Hendrickson joined with two activists from the UK to travel to Moscow – smuggling in Russian language flyers on the dangers of radiation and a banner reading "No more Hiroshimas, No more Chernobyls. Peace and Environmental Safety for All." The action took place on August 6, timed for the 41st anniversary of the bombing of Hiroshima. They promptly headed to Moscow's Gorky Park, where they unfurled the banner, began distributing the leaflets and were quickly arrested by the KGB. After a few days in custody, they were deported. The action won international media coverage.

Back in New York after this escapade, Bob helped transform the local Trust Group into Neither East Nor West (NENW), dedicated to supporting anti authoritarian opposition forces, not only in Russia, but throughout Eastern Europe. As the Cold War entered its end game, such groups were fast gaining ground, and NENW organized campaigns and demonstrations to support East Bloc activists faced with imprisonment or persecution – raising their international profile to give them more political space.

NENW gave special emphasis to linking activist struggles in the East Bloc and the US – for instance, getting activists in Moscow, Minsk and Warsaw to protest at their local US embassies to demand

news would continue until his death.

Eric exhibited his skill as a writer and correspondent in eight years of covering the corrupt and violent term of Mayor Rudolph Giuliani. It was in the newsroom of WBAI where we met late one Saturday night.

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Among Eric's talents were his insightful one-on-one interviews with news makers. One of the most memorable was with German Greens Party founder Petra Kelly, which was widely

every day.

Eric's New York City cool, from his life growing up in the Bronx and Lower East Side, contributed to his success as a reporter. He treated everyone he met with respect, courtesy and love. Eric's brotherhood is a high point of my life and I will never forget him.

Buddy, your spirit lives.

--Paul DeRienzo

[For more on Eric's journalistic career, go to: https://www.linkedin.com/in/eric williams 23a9ab62-Ed.]

IN THESE ORANGE TIMES

By Edward Arrocha

I remember when it began. Laws were being passed against demonstrating or congregating in groups larger then three for any political purpose. The ever vigilant "eyes in the sky" kept track of everyone's motion.

The generals began running "domestic security" as if were an army. The word law and order took a totally different meaning. By that time we had become inured to the presence of heavily armed police forces. Faces covered, fingers on the trigger, armed carriers and arrest

fallen in to a drain.

Her face suddenly got serious and she sounded disgusted:

Disrupters, looking to affect security and bring chaos to the street assaulted the forces of order.

Then she went on to interview the head of security who said sternly that this behavior would not be tolerated. He explained that "Democracy must be protected at all costs".

A tweet by the "Orange Leader" sliming a person, business or group would

heart attack on August 23 at his home in Yonkers. He was 60 years old.

With his long hair, army boots, sleeveless denim jacket and prize fighter's build, Bob could be taken for a biker. But he was motivated by an intense idealism.

Bob's long and varied activist career began in the early 1980s, with Brooklyn Anti Nuclear Group (BANG), which organized to shut down the Indian Point nuclear power plant north of New York City. His artistically crude but politically sophisticated cartoons gave the BANG newsletter a punk aesthetic.

In this same period, Bob began working as a bicycle messenger – which also thrust him into political activity. Faced with police harassment and city government attempts to oppressively regulate cyclists, in 1982 he organized the first bike messengers' union in New York, the Independent Couriers Association. In 1987, when Mayor Ed Koch issued an order banning bicycles from three Midtown avenues during working hours, messengers repeatedly rode en masse in defiance. Bob was of course on the frontlines of this successful struggle – the ban was overturned as unenforceable. Bob proudly called himself the "King of All Bicycle Messengers."

Bob was again facing off with police in the streets when the city attempted to impose a curfew in Tompkins Square Park in 1988. That set off three years of class warfare on the gentrifying Lower East Side, with squatters, anarchists and the homeless fighting cops in an endless series of angry protests and riots. Bob, although living in Brooklyn, biked across the river to join in the action.

But Bob's special passion was building ties of solidarity with anti nuclear, anti militarist and ecological activists in the Eastern Bloc – challenging work in the paranoid and polarized atmosphere of the Reagan Cold War.

This work began when Bob and a group of friends formed a New York sister organization to the Moscow Trust Group in 1983. The Trust Group, with its unassuming name, had been formed by Moscow activists as an "acceptable" cover to advocate for nuclear disarmament. Now linked with a New York group, the Moscow activists NY Trust Group collaborator Ann Marie Hendrickson joined with two activists from the UK to travel to Moscow – smuggling in Russian language flyers on the dangers of radiation and a banner reading "No more Hiroshimas, No more Chernobyls. Peace and Environmental Safety for All." The action took place on August 6, timed for the 41st anniversary of the bombing of Hiroshima. They promptly headed to Moscow's Gorky Park, where they unfurled the banner, began distributing the leaflets and were quickly arrested by the KGB. After a few days in custody, they were deported. The action won international media coverage.

Back in New York after this escapade, Bob helped transform the local Trust Group into Neither East Nor West (NENW), dedicated to supporting anti authoritarian opposition forces, not only in Russia, but throughout Eastern Europe. As the Cold War entered its end game, such groups were fast gaining ground, and NENW organized campaigns and demonstrations to support East Bloc activists faced with imprisonment or persecution – raising their international profile to give them more political space.

NENW gave special emphasis to linking activist struggles in the East Bloc and the US – for instance, getting activists in Moscow, Minsk and Warsaw to protest at their local US embassies to demand freedom for Kenny Toglia, a New York squatter activist facing charges stemming from a riot in Tompkins Square Park on May 1, 1990. NENW was always clear on advancing politics that rejected both superpowers.

During this period, Bob saved up his money he worked hard for as a bike messenger to travel to Eastern Europe, meeting and networking with activists in Poland and Slovenia (then part of Yugoslavia).

NENW's newsletter was an important networking tool in those pre Internet days. It was called On Gogol Boulevard, for Moscow's artistic and alternative scene hangout, and was mailed to contacts around the world. It later morphed into an insert that appeared in anarchist publications including Fifth Estate, The SHADOW,

Continued On Page 22

disintegrated and his nearly 8 hour on-the-street coverage, broadcast as it happened, nationwide over the Pacifica News network to dozens of community-run radio stations, ranks as the greatest reporting in the history of Pacifica.

Among Eric's talents were his insightful one-on-one interviews with news makers. One of the most memorable was with German Greens Party founder Petra Kelly, which was widely

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The generals began running "domestic security" as if were an army. The word law and order took a totally different meaning. By that time we had become inured to the presence of heavily armed police forces. Faces covered, fingers on the trigger, armed carriers and arrest wagons at every event. From a parade to a game they were deployed "to keep the crowd safe."

The new regime did not play around.

Me and you, we witnessed this. We were on one of walks, laughing, talking about stuff looking for adventure.

We ran in to a large group demonstrating in the square. In a flash, chaos erupted, batons started to swing, rubber bullets were fired, people were thrown in paddy wagons. A young woman with a placard was being mercilessly kicked in the head by a few hulking members of the security forces.

It was filmed by the media.

As we got home the charming news reader kept talking about kittens rescued on roof. There was a profile of a rescue working saving five ducklings that had fallen in to a drain.

Her face suddenly got serious and she sounded disgusted:

Disrupters, looking to affect security and bring chaos to the street assaulted the forces of order.

Then she went on to interview the head of security who said sternly that this behavior would not be tolerated. He explained that "Democracy must be protected at all costs".

A tweet by the "Orange Leader" sliming a person, business or group would bring out these crazed thugs.

At some point, "in order to protect our way of life", doors were being kicked in people dragged out.

People in the heartland, though the promised jobs never materialized, had huge rallies thanking "the leader."

They loved his stance on "law and order." They chanted:

Kick them out, kick them in the head, they got what they deserved, hang them, hang them.

The news loved their hominess.

It was a strange time in these "Orange times", with the ideal life behind a tablet, smart phone or television screen.

And all me and you wanted was a little corner to feel at peace and forget that at the end of days, none of this, none of us would matter.

New York Voting Fiasco Just The Warm Up For The November Game

By Greg Palast

[April 21, 2016] Buckle up, America. The voting demolition derby that was the New York primary on April 19 was merely the crash test for the coming voting wreckage in November: a carefully planned pile up.

First, live from New York....

Francesca Rheannon, whom you may know as the host of Writers' Voice radio, did the civic thing by volunteering to work the polls in a town east of New York City.

"I just got off my 17 hour shift as an election official. In my election district, out of 166 Democratic voters, 39 were forced to file affidavit ballots. The last [election] I worked in, exactly ONE voter needed an affidavit ballot."

That's nearly one of four voters. Why? Their names had gone missing from the voter rolls.

An affidavit ballot (called a "provisional" ballot in most other states) is a kind of placebo ballot. You get to pretend to vote – but the chance it will actually be counted is ...well, good luck. If your name is wrongly removed, kiss your vote – affidavit or not -- goodbye.

Rheannon's experience was hardly unique. In Brooklyn alone, over 125,000 names were quietly scrubbed from the voter rolls in the five months leading up to the primary.

To put it in perspective, the number of voters purged equals about half of the number who got to vote. Scott Stringer, the New York City Comptroller will now audit the Elections Board – now that the

HILLARY CLINTON SUPPORTERS NYC MAY0R DEBLASIO, CITY COUNCIL SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO, NYC COMPTROLLER STRINGER AT CLINTON CAMPAIGN RALLY

lost my state job.)

Am I saying the machine "fixed" the election for Hillary Clinton? Without further investigation, it would be irresponsible for me to pronounce judgment. Some of the purged may have moved, some have died. But those who waited in line only to fill out affidavit ballots are unlikely to be deceased.

If the Machine had been aware of

From the data provided by the US Elections Assistance Commission, we can calculate that no less than 491,952 voters were wrongly removed from the rolls in 2008, the last reviewed Presidential election. In addition, 2,383,587 voters filled out registration forms that were simply never added to voter rolls – and 767,023 provisional and affidavit ballots were not counted.

This year I was in Selma, Alabama, with Hank Sanders, an African American who joined Martin Luther King on the march to Montgomery that won the Voting Rights Act. Today, he's State Senator Hank Sanders, a title that is a tribute to America's advance on voting rights. He's also Hank Sanders, purged voter, forced to vote "provisionally" this year.

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Hey thanks, Scott.

Neal Rosenstein, the lead voting rights attorney for the New York Public Interest Research Group [NYPIRG], which plans legal action, notes that part of the problem is that partisan hacks sit on the Elections board in New York – hacks from both parties.

Brooklyn is under the control of the Kings County Democratic Party, one of the last of the big city machines. Would they attack their opponents' voter registrations? I don't have to guess: in my wasted younger days, I was in the Brooklyn County elections office with the hacks where we were assigned by the Party to challenge voters' signatures en masse. (I wouldn't and nearly lost my state job.)

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If the Machine had been aware of the mass purge underway, would they have stopped it? As they say in Brooklyn, Fahgeddabouddit.

But whether party hacks shoplifted New York or not, that's small potatoes. Scrubbing voter rolls is not a "New York value." It's a nationwide epidemic, a disease eating away at the heart of our democracy.

Voting officials learned a lesson from Katherine Harris the Florida Secretary of State who purged Black voters in 2000. They learned how to repeat the purge, expand it and carefully hide it.

I've been traveling the nation, from Ohio to Georgia to Arizona and back – and finding the voter roll purging machinery running at full speed.

Nationwide, state voting chiefs are, from my long experience, the most violently partisan officials you'll ever encounter.

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And it's not just anyone's ballot. I'll never forget that, at one of my recent talks on vote suppression, I asked how many in the audience had ever been shunted to a provisional ballot. There were only two Black people in the audience. They were the only two to raise their hand.

US Civil Rights Commission statistics tell the story. The chance of a ballot "spoiled" – not counted for one reason or another – is 900% higher if you're Black than if you're White.

As Rosenstein says for NYPIRG, "Instead of purging voters, we should be enfranchising them." Yes. Though we thought that was settled by the Civil War.

OK, we didn't know about the New York purge beforehand. But I'm telling you this now: My team is uncovering an unjustified ethnic cleansing of voter rolls from Ohio to Florida to Texas.

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Why? I'm investigating. But the state officials (and let's tell it like it is: it's mostly GOP officials) have used so many spurious grounds to cancel registrations – "caging," "cross checking" and a host of other sick tricks, it's not easy to pin point which one is responsible for the "lynching by laptop."

It's worth noting that Brooklyn, like Alabama, was on the "pre clearance" list in the Voting Rights Act. I can tell you right now, it's unlikely that neither Hank Sanders nor the 125,000 Brooklynites would have been purged, had the Supreme Court not gutted the Act in 2013.

As I look upon the wreckage that was the New York primary, I see the prelude, the test run, for the catastrophic failure, the well planned failure, of the voting system in November. The purges and votes "spoiled" – the votes not counted – not the voters, may well elect our President.

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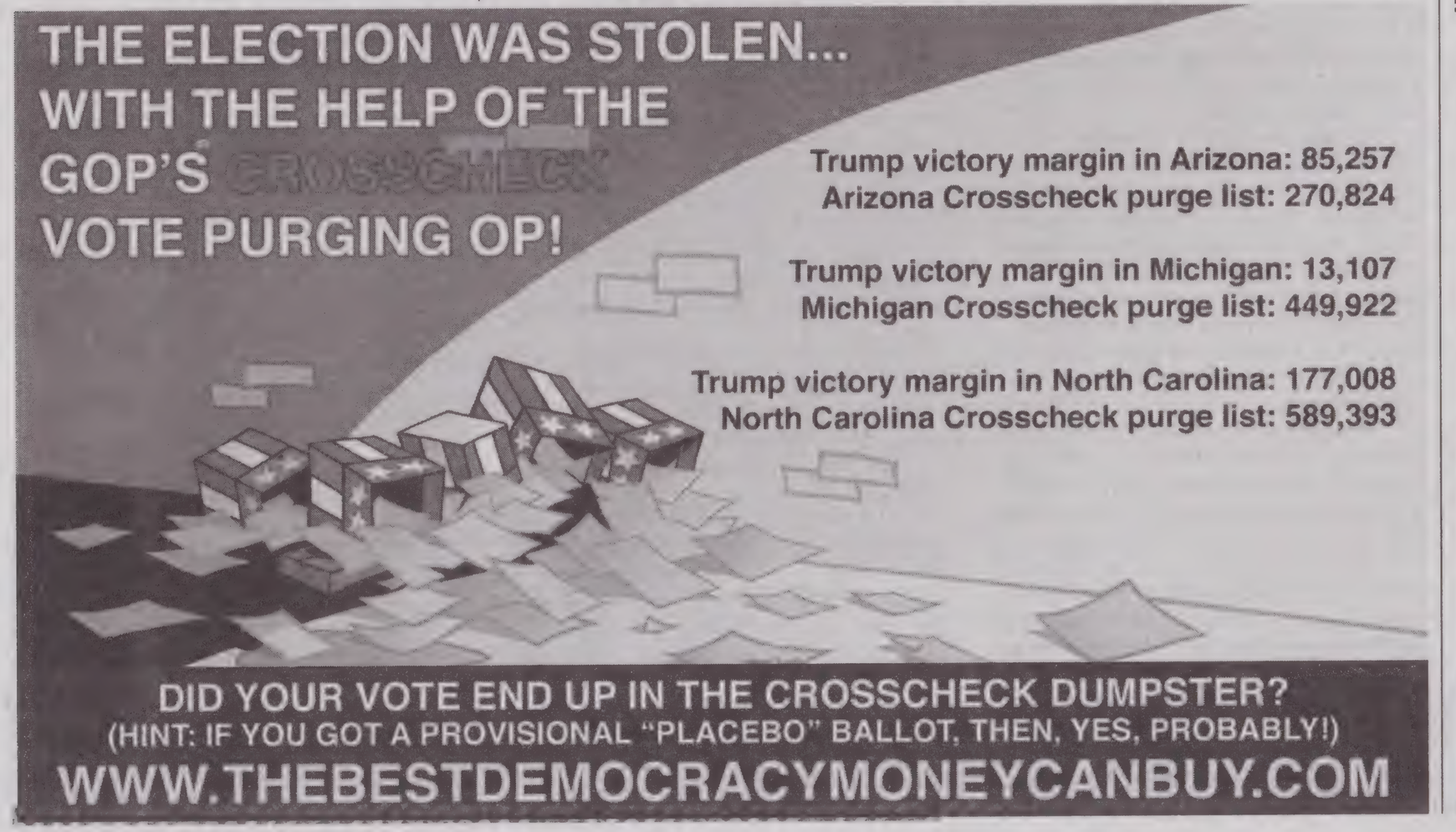

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MEDICAL MARIJUANA WINS BIG, NEW YORK EXPANDS COVERAGE

By Paul DeRienzo

PHOTOGRAPHIC ILLUSTRATION BY MISTER CAT

TRUMP: "IN SOME WAYS, I THINK [LEGALIZATION] IS GOOD."

Referendums in half a dozen states across the country legalized and/or provided medical marijuana exceptions to criminal law for millions on Election Day on November 8.

Californians passed Proposition 64 that legalizes pot for adult use, joining Massachusetts, Nevada and Maine as one of four new states legalizing marijuana. Oregon, Washington, Colorado, Alaska and the District of Columbia have already passed legalization measures. About 20% of Americans now live in states with legal pot. Arizona was the only state to reject

the Massachusetts border. He told the Albany Times Union that his main concern is how the drug would be dispensed and to whom. The ballot proposition does not prohibit sale to out of state residents. "Somebody who is holding 10 ounces, who is growing six plants, it becomes a potential for them to sell it," Russo said. However it is expected to take some time before fractious state officials in Boston come up with an implementation plan.

The biggest win of the night was a medical marijuana referendum in Florida that garnered 71% of the vote, even as

TEA PARTY NUT MIKE PENCE NOW A HEARTBEAT AWAY FROM THE PRESIDENCY

By A. Kronstadt

Mike Pence is a former conservative talk show host, congressman and current governor of Indiana. In July 2016, in the middle of his gubernatorial re election campaign, Pence dropped out in order to become Donald Trump's vice presidential running mate. He and Trump are expected to take office on January 20, 2017.

Pence has positioned himself as a principled ideologue and was a member of the Tea Party Caucus in Congress. He describes himself as "a Christian, a conservative, and a Republican, in that order."

Over his political career, Pence has accepted over $100,000 in campaign contributions from the tobacco industry. During his 2000 campaign for Congress, Pence came out with an op ed published in several Indiana papers against a pending government settlement with the tobacco industry, saying: "Time for a quick reality check. Despite the hysteria from the political class and the media, smoking doesn't kill. In fact, two out of every three smokers does not die from a smoking related illness and nine out of ten smokers do not contract lung cancer."

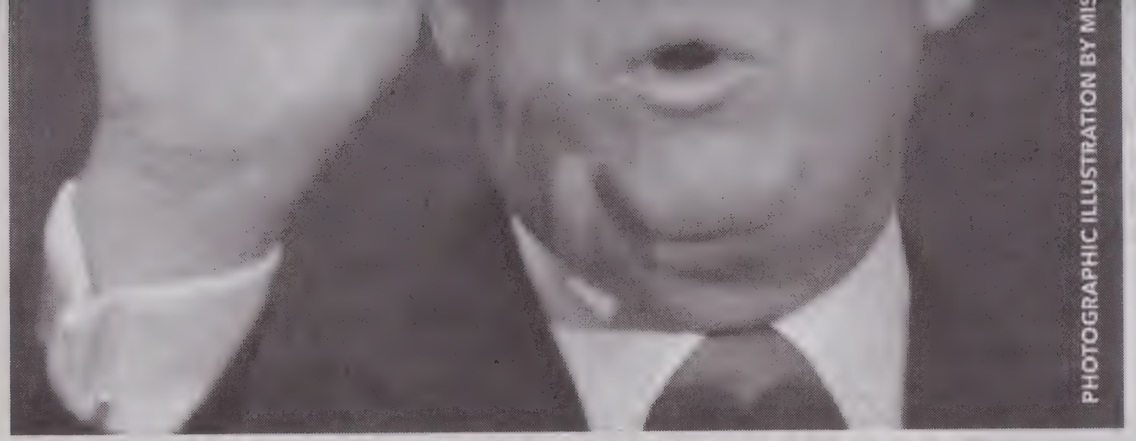
When pressed about his assertion

the trend toward tolerance and acceptance for gay people in America, signing legislation in Indiana that made it legal to cite 'religious freedom' as a justification for businesses to discriminate against gay people in petty ways that have nothing to do with the commandments of any religion, such as refusing to sell a gay couple a wedding cake or flowers for a same sex marriage ceremony.

Pence has also specifically supported government funding for "gay conversion therapy," psychotherapeutic techniques aimed at "curing" homosexuality. These have been widely discredited by mainstream professional organizations, because, among other things, the guilt and self condemnation that these therapists use has been identified as a danger to mental health, particularly for young people.

As governor, Pence pushed for a state run news service called JustIN, intended to serve up pre packaged news stories selected by the governor's office to the Indiana press. The project, now defunct due to widespread disdain within and without the media, was dubbed 'Pravda on the Plains' by its detractors.

Pence supported the USA PATRIOT Act when passed in 2001. In 2005, he called the Act "essential to our continued success in the war on terror here at home." In 2009, Pence sponsored legislation that extended three expiring provisions of the Patriot Act (the library records provision, the roving



PHOTOGRAPHIC ILLUSTRATION BY MISHKA

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Voters in Florida, North Dakota and Arkansas also liberalized pot laws and joined about 25 states, including New York, that have legislation allowing doctors to prescribe cannabis for a variety of medical problems. Montana passed a referendum eliminating some restrictions on its existing medical marijuana law.

California's Proposition 64, The Adult Use of Marijuana Act, allows anyone over 21 to possess and grow marijuana. The law provides for taxation and for local communities to opt out of hosting marijuana dispensaries if they choose. Prop 64 also creates a state certification for "organic" pot, allows localities to use their names as appellations - we'll be seeing pot named after famous growing locales, such as Humboldt County - and allows for delivery services of marijuana. California's huge population is expected to give a political boost to federal marijuana initiatives by sending 53 representatives to Congress.

Despite these victories, California marijuana rights activist Dennis Peron, who wrote Proposition 215 establishing California's medical marijuana law in 1995, is a strong opponent of legalization. Peron

the Massachusetts border. He told the Albany Times Union that his main concern is how the drug would be dispensed and to whom. The ballot proposition does not prohibit sale to out of state residents. "Somebody who is holding 10 ounces, who is growing six plants, it becomes a potential for them to sell it," Russo said. However it is expected to take some time before fractious state officials in Boston come up with an implementation plan.

The biggest win of the night was a medical marijuana referendum in Florida that garnered 71% of the vote, even as Hillary Clinton went down in defeat. It was the second try. State law requires a 60% vote to pass a referendum - the last attempt fell a few percentage points short. The victory makes the "Sunshine State" the first to legalize medical marijuana in the deep south and came despite more than $5.5 million donated by Las Vegas casino magnate Sheldon Adelson to defeat the measure. Addison is the 12th richest man in America and an early supporter of the candidacy of President elect Donald Trump.

In conservative, dyed in the red North Dakota, a little-noticed medical marijuana referendum won with 64% of the vote.

Meanwhile, New York State, which instituted a limited medical marijuana program called the Compassionate Care Act in 2014, has recently expanded locations that can dispense cannabis. Earlier this month, PharmaCannis Inc., which operates three dispensary locations upstate, opened a storefront in the Hunts Point neighborhood of the South Bronx. Bronx City Councilman Rafael Salamanca, Jr. said the dispensary opening was a "good thing to celebrate" by bringing "medicine" that would benefit the community.

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TRUMP AND PENCE MAKING WHOOPIE

that smoking does not kill, Pence replied that his statement had been misinterpreted and that he meant there was no established link between smoking and disease, although the research establishing precisely such a link was published in the Surgeon General's report on smoking in 1964. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Pence's state of Indiana has one of the worst smoking problems in America.

Regarding the issue of marijuana, on which American society seems to be moving forward, Governor Pence consistently opposed reduction of penalties for low level marijuana offenders. This past year, he signed into law a reinstatement of ten

mainstream professional organizations, because, among other things, the guilt and self condemnation that these therapists use has been identified as a danger to mental health, particularly for young people.

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Aside from these stances taken by the vp-elect, Pence is an old hat conservative. In contrast to his boss Trump, he has taken Clinton like positions favoring free trade agreements and is otherwise a pro business Republican. He likened the Supreme Court ruling upholding key features of Obama care to the "terrorist" events of September 11, 2001 - he was forced to apologize after the backlash. Pence has said that he is "very supportive" of Trump's call to stop immigration from certain countries and that he is "absolutely" in agreement with Trump's Mexican wall proposal, stating that Mexico is "absolutely" going to pay for it.

During the recent presidential election campaign, Pence used the Indiana State Police to seize 45,000 voter registration applications, most of them from Black citizens, from the Indianapolis headquar-

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Despite these victories, California marijuana rights activist Dennis Peron, who wrote Proposition 215 establishing California's medical marijuana law in 1995, is a strong opponent of legalization. Peron told The SHADOW that "recreational use" of marijuana creates a false division among pot users. Peron claims that any marijuana use is basically medical, adding: "Any government involvement is bad. The government fucks it up. We rely on the government too much. Prop 215 had no government, no bureaucracy. Prop 64 is only about money and power." Peron says that proposition 64 will "ruin marijuana" by establishing taxes and bureaucracy, bringing the government, especially police, into California's freewheeling marijuana community.

Massachusetts and Maine became the first eastern states to legalize recreational use of marijuana. The measure is expected to put some pressure on New York, as the Massachusetts state line is just an hour from Albany. Rensselaer County Sheriff Pat Russo said he would increase patrols where the county line runs along

come up with an implementation plan.

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New York does not allow marijuana to be smoked, but it can be made into a variety of tinctures, sprays and edibles. Governor Andrew Cuomo says that he intends to announce several new policies, including authorizing delivery services that would provide marijuana to patients too ill to travel, and enabling nurse practitioners to certify patients as medically-qualified for the drug. New York would also broaden the scope of illnesses for prescribing marijuana, by including Post Traumatic Stress Disorder.

New York also plans to double the number of pot dispensaries to 40. Currently, five companies have been operating 20 dispensaries. Marijuana and health activists have been calling for more local, neighborhood operated dispensaries to help diversify the clientele and to bring down the steep price of legal medical marijuana.

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Regarding the issue of marijuana, on which American society seems to be moving forward, Governor Pence consistently opposed reduction of penalties for low level marijuana offenders. This past year, he signed into law a reinstatement of ten year minimum sentences for drug offenders, once again bucking a national trend toward sentencing reform.

Pence has been a long-time vocal opponent of needle exchange programs, which allow drug users to trade in used syringes for sterile ones, despite evidence that such programs prevent the spread of AIDS and hepatitis C and do not increase drug abuse.

Pence has made a career of opposing sions of the Patriot Act (the library records provision, the roving wiretap provision, and the lone wolf provision) for an additional ten years.

Aside from these stances taken by the vp-elect, Pence is an old hat conservative. In contrast to his boss Trump, he has taken Clinton like positions favoring free trade agreements and is otherwise a pro business Republican. He likened the Supreme Court ruling upholding key features of Obama care to the "terrorist" events of September 11, 2001 – he was forced to apologize after the backlash. Pence has said that he is "very supportive" of Trump's call to stop immigration from certain countries and that he is "absolutely" in agreement with Trump's Mexican wall proposal, stating that Mexico is "absolutely" going to pay for it.

During the recent presidential election campaign, Pence used the Indiana State Police to seize 45,000 voter registration applications, most of them from Black citizens, from the Indianapolis headquarters of the Indiana Voter Registration Project, on October 4, just one month before Election Day.

Pence is reported as having a large degree of influence in the incoming Trump administration, acting as mediator between Trump and congressional Republicans and influencing choices for Trump's cabinet As vice-president, Pence says that his role model is [vice-president under George W. Bush] Dick Cheney.

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How They're Stealing Ohio Vote Machines Audit Function Disabled – And Worse

By Greg Palast

Greg Palast reporting on the ground in the battleground state of Ohio, where he finds three ways the vote is, indeed, "rigged" – but FOR the GOP

[Election Day, November 8, 2016 in Columbus, Ohio]

For two decades, computer touch screen voting machines have been derided as "push and pray" voting. You had to take it on faith that the machine records your vote as you intend. The machines lacked a "paper record" to audit and recount.

So, voting rights attorney Robert Fitrakis was thrilled to learn that many of Ohio's voting machines would, for this election, have a brand new anti-hacking capability. The computers could now take a photo of every voter card loaded in, time stamp each marking, and keep the images in an order that allows an audit and recount.

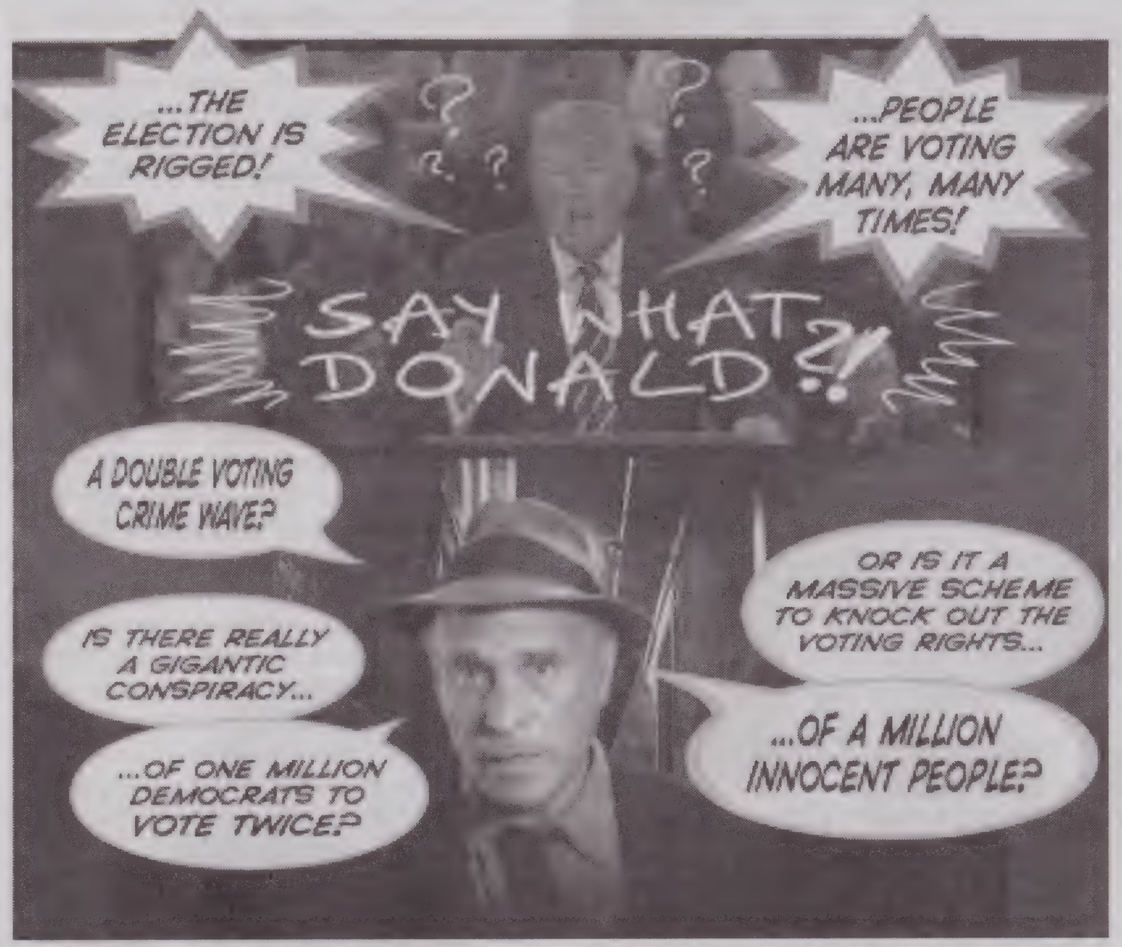
But there's one thing wrong with the new tamper proof voting machines. "They've decided to TURN OFF the security."

What? In 2004, Ohio's "push and pray" machines produced suspect tallies that won President George W. Bush's re election victory over Sen. John Kerry – although Kerry had a comfortable lead in exit polls. And in this year's contest, the FBI has raised fears of fiddling of these machines by Russian hackers.

Yet, the Republican Secretary of State of Ohio, Jon Husted, is allowing county officials to simply turn off these security functions – with no explanation as to why.

The counties, Fitrakis discovered, "bought state of the art equipment and turned off the security," both the ballot-imaging function and the audit application that can detect and record evidence of machine tampering.

Fitrakis, Green Party candidate for



Republican, ruled that Fitrakis' demand was "borderline frivolous." Counsel for the state's GOP Attorney General argued, successfully, that Fitrakis would have to return after the election and prove the election was stolen. Of course, he'd have no audit trail nor ballot images with which to make the case.

Fitrakis told me, "It's Catch 22. It's Ohio."

And the stakes are high. This is the multi story garage. At the end of the line they were given numbers to wait in an auditorium to be called to vote.

Yet, today, on Election Day Tuesday, when the majority of white Ohioans vote, there will be 176 polling stations in Montgomery County (Dayton) alone. For many whites the lines are not short – they are non existent, with more poll workers than voters.

The system was created by that same

requests for an interview.

THE PURGE BEGINS OF HALF A MILLION SUSPECTED "DUPLICATE" VOTERS

Donald Trump claims that, the election is "rigged" – specifically because, "You have people… voting many, many times."

Trump's accusations simply repeat the claim of more than two dozen Republican state voting chiefs, who have created a secret list of those suspected of voting twice or registering twice with the intent of voting a second time. Altogether, there are an astonishing 7.2 million names on the GOP blacklist, labeled "Crosscheck" by Republican operatives.

Ohio's Secretary of State has a whopping 497,000 suspects on his list in that one state – and he is systematically removing them. Of these, approximately 60,000 Ohioans will find their names simply removed from the swing state's voter rolls – and they will have no idea of the accusation against them.

Crucially, the list is racially loaded – tagging an astounding one in six voters of color in the GOP states using Crosscheck.

Voting twice is a felony crime – and, despite the humongous list, only one Ohioan has been convicted. Yet thousands are losing their vote.

Although it is "confidential," our team obtained over 100,000 of Ohio's blacklisted voters facing disenfranchisement. We spoke to several – and one, Donald Webster, agreed to speak to us on camera.

Donald Alexander Webster Jr. of Dayton, Ohio, is accused of having registered a second time in Virginia as Donald

aging function and the audit application that can detect and record evidence of machine tampering.

Fitrakis, Green Party candidate for Franklin County Prosecutor, sought a temporary restraining order to require voting officials to simply turn on the ballot integrity functions on the machines. As a reporter for Democracy Now, I was permitted to observe, though not film, the hearing in the judge's chamber in the Franklin County Court of Common Pleas in Columbus, Ohio's capital.

Lawyers for the Republican Secretary of State, as well as county officials from around the state, gave no reason for turning off the ballot protection functions on the machines. Instead, they pleaded that turning them on "would cause havoc."

Fitrakis, armed with a copy of the machine's instructions, noted that the "havoc" was no more than clicking on a drop down computer menu and choosing "record" images instead of "do not record." The menu has a similar yes/no option for the audit application.

Nevertheless, Judge David Cain, a

Fitrakis told me, "It's Catch 22. It's Ohio."

And the stakes are high. This is the ultimate swing state that could decide not only the Presidency but the balance in the US Senate.

LONG LINES FOR BLACK VOTES - ZERO LINES FOR WHITES

On Sunday, November 6, I joined the members of the Freedom Faith Missionary Baptist Church of Dayton for early voting. All over Ohio, churches bus the faithful to the polls for early voting. Nearly 70% of Ohio's African Americans vote on "Souls to the Polls" Sunday as many do not have the transport nor the day off to vote on Tuesday.

They arrived at the one and only early polling station and waited. And waited. And waited. And waited. The lines for several thousand voters at the one poll snaked up and down three floors of the county building and spiraled through the

non existent, with more poll workers than voters.

The system was created by that same GOP official, Jon Husted, who had permitted counties to turn off ballot protection applications on the voting machines. Husted had wanted to eliminate Sunday voting completely.

But Husted ran into resistance. I located Dennis Lieberman, until recently, a Dayton County elections board member. Lieberman told me, "We had voted, both Republicans and Democrats, for long [voting] hours on weekends so that people, like this" - he gestured to the church groups - could come and vote."

But Secretary Husted was none too pleased.

"After we did that [voted for Saturday and Sunday voting], we were told by the Secretary of State that if we didn't change our vote, that he would fire us."

Lieberman and the others refused to give in. And, as a result, said the voting official, "I got fired."

Secretary Husted has refused several

ster, agreed to speak to us on camera.

Donald Alexander Webster Jr. of Dayton, Ohio, is accused of having registered a second time in Virginia as Donald Eugene Webster Sr.

He claims that he never used the name "Eugene" - and he can't imagine why someone would vote a second time when, to fix an election, he would have had to conspire with thousands of others.

So I asked, "Well, do you? Are you part of a large conspiracy?"

"No, no. No I am not, sir."

Yet he and the other Donald Webster are at risk of losing their vote - and will not know why.

Rights attorney Fitrakis said of Husted's "Crosscheck" game, "He knows what he's doing is illegal. What he's doing is counting on bigotry to get away with it. He's picking first and last names only because he doesn't want to actually [catch double voters]. He wants to purge Blacks and Hispanics. And he's trying to make Ohio winnable in the only way he knows how: by stealing American citizens' votes."

HERE'S WHAT WE DO NOW: A personal note by Greg Palast

Being right never felt so horrid.

"This is the story of the theft of the 2016 election. It's a crime still in progress." So opens my film, The Best Democracy Money Can Buy.

And on Election night, I waited for the returns to make a fool of me.

Instead, the returns made the fool a President.

And so, my vacation's canceled. My life's canceled; that is, a life of anything but sleuthing and exposing the details of the heist of our democracy.

No way around it, this is one frightening moment.

Decades of progress created with sweat and determination face destruction. Within the next six months, we may see the Voting Rights Act repealed - and civil rights set back 50 years; the entirety of our environmental protection laws burnt in a coal pit; police cruelty made our urban policy; the Education Department closed to give billionaires a tax holiday; and a howling

anti Semite as White House Senior Counselor.

But the horror we face is countered by this one hard and hopeful fact: Donald Trump did NOT win this election.

Trump not only lost the popular vote by millions - he did not legitimately win the swing states of the Electoral College.

Michigan, Florida, North Carolina, Arizona, Ohio: every one was stolen through sophisticated, and sickeningly racist vote suppression tactics.

If you saw my report for Democracy Now! on election morning, it revealed that Ohio GOP officials turned off anti hacking software on voting machines and forced Black voters to wait hours in line (while whites had no wait).

And, crucially, I confirmed that tens of thousands of minority voters were purged based on fake accusations they'd voted twice. I first exposed this bogus double voter blacklist called Crosscheck in Rolling Stone magazine.

It's the sick excrescence crafted by Kris Kobach, the Trump transition team's maven who also created the Muslim tracker software he's bringing to the Trump administration.

WHAT CAN WE DO NOW?

I have been INUNDATED with requests for my reports and findings by media and, most important, the front line activist groups preparing for the fierce fight to protect our votes. Some examples:

Rev. William Barber of the NAACP filed a suit based in North Carolina, hoping to overturn the Trump "victory" - and protect the tiny margin of the Democrat's win of the Governor's mansion. The NAACP cites my discovery of "Crosscheck" - in which North Carolina removed upwards of 190,000 voters on false charges they voted twice.

Congressmen Keith Ellison and Alcee Hastings of the Congressional Black Caucus, personally presented Attorney General Loretta Lynch with my

investigative reports and demanded investigation - "and indictments." That investigation must kick off immediately.

The Asian American civil rights group 18 Million Rising has gathered 50,000 signatures to push the Justice Department to investigate my evidence of a massive attack on the Asian American vote.

In Michigan, the ACLU is ready to take action on the purge scheme I uncovered, "Crosscheck," that wrongly gave the state to Trump. In Ohio, voting rights attorney Robert Fitrakis is going into court with evidence, much that I uncovered, of racist voting games - from 5 hour long lines in Black precincts to shutting off ballot security measures on the voting machines.

I expect to be in Washington at the Justice Dept and meeting with civil rights groups in December before the Electoral College meets on December 19.

With our investigative reports, with

'COLONEL' BEHIND THE "CAGING" ATTACK ON BLACK VOTERS IN NORTH CAROLINA EXPOSED

By Greg Palast

The bigger purge by same group could flip the US Senate

"COLONEL" JAY DELANCY RAZZES THE ELECTORATE

[November 3, 2016] While the rest of the press is shocked that white North Carolina vigilantes are using racially poisonous trickery to knock more than 6,700 Black citizens off the voter rolls, we already have the ringleader of the scheme on camera boasting of his election snatching tactics.

The NAACP has identified the Voter Integrity Project of Raleigh, North Carolina, as the organization directing the mass mailings to voters in minority communities. When the letters marked "Do Not Forward"

"COLONEL" DELANCY'S CAGING OPERATION

VIP is headed by "Colonel" Jay DeLancy. DeLancy admitted to this reporter, on camera, that he's previously used the mailing trap, called "caging," in attempts to remove the rights of voters he considers "aliens" or "dead" or otherwise illegally registered.

[Get the full story on Jay DeLancy, interstate Crosscheck and the billionaires behind them, ... in The Best Democracy Money Can Buy: A Tale of Billionaires & Ballot Bandits, now a major motion picture by Greg Palast: http://thebestdemocracy-moneycanbuy.com/]

While DeLancy has not found a single illegal voter, not one zombie from Mexico, he did create enough media hysteria about chimerical "fraudulent" voters to successfully push North Carolina to adopt draconian voting laws.

RFK JR: CAGING IS A FELONY

DeLancy told me that his efforts to eliminate voters' rights, despite lacking convincing evidence of fraud, had caused a storm of protest regarding its racial effect. DeLancy grinned from ear to ear when he said, "And you would think that Jim Crow rose from the dead," then chuckled.

Indeed, that was the conclusion of a federal court that in July struck down some of these VIP promoted laws which, the court concluded, "target African Americans with almost surgical precision."

Law professor and voting rights attorney Robert F. Kennedy Jr., who joined me in the investigation for Rolling Stone and BBC Television Newsnight, has said that

THE BIGGEST PURGE YET: "INTERSTATE CROSSCHECK"

DeLancy, often seen on Fox TV declaring that thousands vote fraudulently in his state, was the chief lobbyist who pushed for the state to adopt a vote purging scheme which has targeted more than 35,750 voters that DeLancy and GOP state officials accused of the felony crime of voting twice.

Rolling Stone's extensive investigation of this DeLancy/GOP purge program, called, "Interstate Crosscheck," revealed that, in fact, North Carolina did not convict a single voter of committing the crime of voting twice – yet has removed tens of thousands of voters through the program.

Rolling Stone's experts calculated that one in seven minority voters in the state were targeted by the Crosscheck program promoted by DeLancy. North Carolina Board of Elections chief Kim Strach testified to her legislature that 35,750 voters are "registered in North Carolina and another state and voted in both in the 2012 general election," a fact promoted by DeLancy, but quickly debunked by law enforcement.

The Crosscheck purge of up to one million voters in several swing states could "flip the outcome of the US Senate races" in North Carolina, Ohio, Arizona and other states, according to Voting Rights attorney Robert Fitrakis of Columbus, Ohio. Fitrakis has represented both the the Republican and Democratic parties in litigation.

The mass purge by Crosscheck was unknown and therefore unchallenged by the NAACP in the lawsuit which successfully challenged other so called voter fraud prevention procedures.

Ion Sancho, respected voting expert with the non partisan Verified Voting Foundation, states that the "Colonel's" Voter Integrity Project, "is a North Carolina offshoot of True the Vote, a national movement that purports to combat election fraud by challenging voter registration of those they believe should not be on the voter rolls" – though they found no evidence to convict the voters whom they victimize.

True the Vote, in turn, is affiliated with the Heritage Foundation's Hans von Spakovsky, who is funded by the right-wing think-tank, backed by conservative billionaires, including the Mellon and Koch families.

na, as the organization directing the mass mailings to voters in minority communities. When the letters marked "Do Not Forward" were returned to vigilante citizens guided by VIP, the group's front men then challenged the Black citizens' right to vote. Republican officials then quickly removed these voters from the rolls despite the lack of any evidence that any are fraudulent voters.

ney Robert F. Kennedy Jr., who joined me in the investigation for Rolling Stone and BBC Television Newsnight, has said that this kind of mailing is known as "caging" to experts. If it targets voters of color, "caging is a felony crime punishable by high fines and even prison time under several laws including the Voting Rights Act of 1965."

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our hard and unassailable evidence, we can challenge the legitimacy of the Trump "election." Most important, we must begin the difficult but necessary work of protecting and restoring voting rights. The 2018 Election – and the threat of more stolen elections – is upon us.

WHAT WE NEED TO KEEP GOING...

Your extraordinary support and faith in our work funded my film The Best Democracy Money Can Buy, which is now more relevant than ever and being seen by ever more audiences.

Now we need your financial support again to keep this fight going. We just did not budget for the GOP's in your face steal of the Congress and White House. All our resources went into raising the alarm before the election.

So, now, I have to re hire the staff, hit the road again. Ohio, North Carolina, Washington DC and who knows where, retain attorneys – and retain our team of technicians from cameramen to outreach organizers.

Can this new work be done?

Is there any choice?

Honestly and personally, I was hoping for some rest and time off.

But a lifetime of your work and mine is now in the balance.

PLEASE support the 2016 Stolen Election Investigation with a donation of any size, no matter how small or large. And, does an angel have the $8K needed for our Washington work and filming? If so, flap your wings.

I can't thank you enough for all the years of support. Alas... our work is not done.

Greg Palast and the Palast Investigations Team

[To make a donation and to see Greg Palast's reports, please go to: gregpalast.com - Ed.]

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URBAN REMOVAL:
ETHNIC CLEANSING AND GENTRIFICATION ON DELANCEY STREET

By A. Kronstadt

We have been taught to see politics as an interplay of personalities, a kind of morality play in which the evil and corrupt are exposed and brought to justice by the honest and the good. However, the long saga of the Seward Park Urban Renewal Area [SPURA] on New York's Lower East Side shows a picture that is the mirror image of this, where, even as greedy politicians who were culprits in this tragedy go to jail for corruption and bribery, a permanent government of real estate magnates continues to ride the wave of corruption and prosper indefinitely.

Once a neighborhood teeming with working class New Yorkers, the six blocks that comprise the SPURA site, mostly bounded by Delancey + Grand + Essex + Attorney Streets, were de populated in 1967. Only one of the blocks saw any development before 2014. The housing that was constructed there did not include any of the residents who had been displaced from the SPURA site in 1967. The remaining five blocks were then kept empty for 47 years by the machinations of local politicians, most notably New York State Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver, in spite of promises by city officials that the re housing of thousands of former residents would be a priority.

The entire site has now been handed over by the city to real estate developers in order to create a $1.1 billion, 1.9 million square foot mega-project now being called "Essex Crossing", with Goldman Sachs as an 80% equity partner. In addition to developing the site into a mixture of luxury and "affordable" housing (affordable, that is, for people earning in the $50,000-$80,000/year range), the project includes upscaling the Essex Street Market into high end market stalls and restaurants, and the demolition and redevelopment of the entire Delancey Street shopping strip, from the Williamsburg Bridge to the surreal looking Blue Tower which juts up incon-

Manhattan entrance to the Williamsburg Bridge. The name comes from Seward Park, a city park that abuts the SPURA site to the south. Until 2014, the area consisted exclusively of vacant block sized lots belonging to the city, several of which were rented out as parking lots.

People entering Manhattan via the bridge have been treated for decades to the sight of a vast wasteland situated in the midst of an otherwise densely populated area. It has been the largest stretch of undeveloped city owned land in Manhattan south of 96th Street. During the 1980s, the desolate space under the bridge was a center for cheap prostitution and the drug trade. Neighborhood residents avoided it as a "good place to get hit over the head at night."

How did all of this land end up empty and derelict? Until 1967, the original six city blocks that were to make up the SPURA site were occupied by privately owned tenement buildings, most with stores on the street level, just like those seen throughout the Lower East Side. These tenements were built in the late 1800s-early 1900s, during a time of massive Eastern European Jewish migration to the Lower East Side. By the 1960s, there had been a large influx of Black, Puerto Rican, and Chinese people to the area.

The tenements were demolished en masse in 1967 as part of the city's "slum clearance", a.k.a "urban renewal" project in which 1,800 apartments, housing as many families and individuals, were removed from the city's housing stock. Though the residents who were displaced were promised apartments in new "low-income projects" which were to be built on the site, as of the start of the "Essex Crossing" project in 2014, only one of the sites had been developed. None of the apartments built on that site were given to displaced tenants, while the remaining five blocks remained vacant.

the Holland Tunnel with the Williamsburg Bridge-fourteen blocks were slated to be demolished on the West Side as well.

At the time that the Seward Park tenements were scheduled to be demolished, the city government lost interest in the LOMEX project, but did not rescind the condemnation of these low rent tenements that were designated as "blighted." The doctrine in those days, informed chiefly by property values, was that the solution to what city fathers defined as "urban blight" was to demolish buildings on a mass scale. The policy regarding what would replace them was much vaguer-sometimes the plan was to build government owned housing projects and at other times, roads or parking lots.

The term "blighted" not only refers to "run down" conditions of buildings, it is a racist metaphor for low income residents who are usually Black and Hispanic. Indeed, the term "blight" literally comes from a plant disease in which dark spots appear on the leaves.

The new justification for knocking down the buildings at the Seward Park site was "urban renewal," a euphemism for the old and more offensive term "slum clearance." Nationally, officially designated urban renewal projects were responsible for the demolition of 400,000 working class families' homes. These were replaced over time with housing projects that in total consisted of less than 100,000 units. This well planned shrinkage led many to rename the government policy "urban removal."

OUT WITH THE POOR

The area of the Lower East Side surrounding the SPURA site was no stranger to "urban removal" or to its high priest Robert Moses. Since the 1930s, Moses had been working with Jewish groups and labor unions to replace vast swaths of Lower

by large, attractive co op developments that were reasonably-priced by today's standards, but which constituted a form of gentrification by the standards of those days. Almost all of the new residents were Jewish people with stable union jobs, heavily concentrated in the garment industry. Poorer residents, whose buildings were torn down, who were mostly Jewish as well, were tracked into low income housing or had to find inexpensive accommodations elsewhere, which fortunately existed in those days.

During this period, increasing numbers of people from Puerto Rico were moving into tenements surrounding the heavily Jewish co ops, including what would eventually become the SPURA site. The housing situation was now taking on a racial dimension. The Jewish socialist and union element that was responsible for creating the co ops was unable to overcome its racism and include new neighborhood residents in the cooperative movement, even though many Puerto Ricans on the Lower East Side were garment workers and belonged to the same unions that helped found the co ops.

A racial split thus developed between lower income Puerto Rican tenement dwellers and Jewish residents of the co ops, who were concerned with property values. Robert Moses, whose motivation was pushing up property values, was determined to drive more low income residents out of the area. In 1959, even as he was nudging city and state officials to approve his LOMEX plan that would cut through the area that would ultimately become the SPURA site, Moses was drumming up support for an "urban renewal area" that would replace the "blighted" housing with more majority Jewish cooperative housing if the expressway ended up not being built.

Political battles fought over the Seward Park redevelopment often pitted

and the demolition and redevelopment of the entire Delancey Street shopping strip, from the Williamsburg Bridge to the surreal looking Blue Tower which juts up incongruously among the tenements of Ludlow Street, at the corner of Norfolk Street.

ROBERT MOSES BUILDS A WASTELAND

The Seward Park Urban Renewal Area [SPURA] is a 20 acre site near the

been developed. None of the apartments built on that site were given to displaced tenants, while the remaining five blocks remained vacant.

These blocks of housing were condemned in 1965 in order to make way for the proposed Lower Manhattan Expressway [LOMEX], envisioned by urban planning guru Robert Moses and partially approved by the city administration. LOMEX was intended to connect

Moses. Since the 1930s, Moses had been working with Jewish groups and labor unions to replace vast swaths of Lower East Side tenement housing with cooperative housing in which residents would be owners of their own apartments, though they would be able to sell their shares in the building back to the co op only for the price they paid, with no profit.

Dozens of blocks of tenements were torn down through the 1950s, replaced

up not being built.

Political battles fought over the Seward Park redevelopment often pitted Jews against Puerto Ricans. Indeed, many Jews were among the politicians and developers who worked to make sure that no low income housing was ever built on the SPURA site, starting with Moses,

Continued On Page 20

Delancey Street and the 'Blue Tower' (all glass building at center right) seen from within the Seward Park Urban Development Area (SPURA). The crane on the left marks the construction site at one lot of the Essex Crossing project; the parking lot in the foreground, part of the SPURA area, has been condemned and will soon become another construction site. Although the Blue Tower is not part of the Essex Crossing project, the developers have stated that they intend to consider it the northwest boundary of Essex Crossing, and that all of the low buildings seen here that are part of the old Delancey Street shopping area will be demolished in the coming months and years so that Essex Crossing will extend up to the Blue Tower

WHATEVER HAPPENED TO EL BARRIO?

East Harlem Up-Zoning Threatens Affordable Housing

By Julia Campos Lebron

East Harlem/El Barrio is about to be blown off the map! Everything that the predominantly low income Latin and African-American community cherishes: low rise buildings and open sky lines, public parks and plazas, community gardens – even NYCHA [New York City Housing Authority] lawns and playgrounds – will be up for grabs if Mayor Bill de Blasio and NYC Council Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito soon have their way.

As previously reported in **SHADOW #58**, new plans are underway to further up zone the neighborhood, this time with a clearly gerry-mandered blueprint that focuses on mostly low income areas while conveniently ignoring wealthier sections of the neighborhood.

But the community isn't having it, as hundreds protested during a November 17 meeting where the NYC Department of City Planning unveiled a scheme that would allow developers on Third Avenue and much of East 125th Street to build properties up to 35 stories – while leaving everything from 96th Street to 104th and all of Pleasant Avenue intact.

WHAT'S THE PLAN?

Developments along 116th Street would be "limited" to 11 stories to "preserve" the area, though new buildings on 116th Street and Lexington could go as high as 25 stories – despite the area's densely trafficked, narrow sidewalks.

One "rationale" providing for allowing 35+ stories along Third Avenue was that the buildings would then "mirror" skyscrapers on the Upper East Side. Park Avenue would also be zoned to allow 35 stories – perhaps to "compliment" major redevelopment plans for the "Marqueta Mile" corridor that are also underway.

Under Mayor's de Blasio's new and improved up zoning proposal, NYCHA lawns, playgrounds, and parking lots

MARK-VIVERITO SCORES POINTS WITH PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE HILLARY CLINTON

developers from taking over and pushing us out! This is our neighborhood and it's up to us to preserve it, so let's stand together and stop the city government and Mayor de Blasio. We will not allow greedy developers to remove us!"

The group's co founder, Roger Hernandez, Jr., had organized a forum in their 116th Street storefront office earlier that week to mobilize the community. Speakers at the November 14th gathering included representatives from South Bronx Community Congress and East Harlem

excess funds they don't know what to do with. They don't know where to invest them," Angotti continued. "And they don't even mind investing in high rise developments that are half empty, cause they're just vertical file cabinets for excess money. They don't care if people live in there. They're not solving the housing problem; they're solving the problem of their excess cash that's accumulated from their investments all over the world. Now, we have to say: our neighborhoods aren't here to be your safe deposit box."

contrary, Mark-Viverito in fact knew the sale was imminent and even tried to set up her own community development corporation in 2006 to gain some leverage with the Abyssinian Development Corporation, which held a controlling interest. Ten years later, though, she's shocked. Shocked, she tells us!

It's ludicrous to assume that any of the major "asks" in the EHNP would ever be taken seriously, much less fulfilled. In fact, Mark-Viverito and de Blasio have already bent over backwards to "clear out" the 125th Street corridor to make way for large scale developments and the development of an outdoor food plaza near the Metro North Station on Park Avenue. Their position is clear, since both initiatives are being heavily funded through recent NYPD hirings and grants to local organizations working to build an "Uptown Grand Central."

DEVIL IN THE DETAILS

The reality is that over 85% of the NYC Department of Housing Preservation and Development's operating budget is federally-funded. City officials have no idea what changes might be made under a Trump administration, so Mayor de Blasio's and Speaker Mark-Viverito's promises of housing subsidies for new developments are groundless.

We know as well that the administration's assurances that they will protect tenants from greedy landlords are baseless, considering that the Rent Guidelines Board can't even track – let alone enforce – affordable housing requirements in subsidized developments that already exist.

In a recent audit, NYC Comptroller Scott M. Stringer revealed that the city only collected 2.46% of the $35.1 million dollars in fines issued against negligent landlords in 2014.

According to Next City magazine [See nextcity.org – Ed.] the expired 421-a

Under Mayor's de Blasio's new and improved up zoning proposal, NYCHA lawns, playgrounds, and parking lots would not be sold – but simply leased for 99 years – to commercial developers, whose structures would effectively block "the projects" so that people on the sidewalk won't have to see them.

PROTESTS, AND MORE PROTESTS

To no one's surprise, almost one hundred Community Voices Heard [CVH] members conducted a pre staged walk out during the city's November 17 presentation at Taino Towers, demanding assurances that the plan will include "a $200 million down payment to NYCHA, that 30 percent of the total housing be affordable to families making $23,000 and less, and that 40 percent of the housing on public land be affordable to that income bracket."

As noted in City Limits, CVH was a "key partner … in crafting the East Harlem Neighborhood Plan [EHNP], upon which the city claims its own re-zoning plan is based. It is also a regular recipient of Mark-Viverito's discretionary funding."

Sadly, the conflict of interest runs much deeper than reported as CVH – which was originally founded to empower public housing residents and low income people – has received hundreds of thousands of dollars in city funding to help facilitate EHNP meetings and its staff have been in direct communication with the Speaker's office and related city agencies since the very beginning.

By contrast, members of El Barrio Unite and other East Harlem activists have not been as flexible in their defiance – remaining steadfast in their opposition and building solidarity with like-minded activists from Chinatown, the Lower East Side, Queens and the South Bronx, who are demanding a citywide moratorium on re-zoning.

El Barrio Unite also protested and disrupted the city's November 17 presentation. Dozens of members wearing bright yellow t shirts that read "Stop Gentrification and Displacement" staged a sit in to make sure their unrelenting message was heard loud and clear: "We Say NO to Re-Zoning East Harlem/El Barrio! Stop big Speakers at the November 14th gathering included representatives from South Bronx Community Congress and East Harlem Preservation.

Tom Angotti, Professor of Urban Affairs and Planning at Hunter College and author of "Zoned Out: Race, Displacement, and City Planning in New York City", also attended El Barrio Unite's forum and described the city's up zoning of poor communities as leftover plans from the Republican Bloomberg administration.

Angotti recounted a similar switch and bait tactic used in Williamsburg, Brooklyn, where residents worked for 15 years on a plan that was officially approved by the City Planning Commission: "Within two years, the city came up with a proposal to re-zone Williamsburg for luxury housing on the waterfront – a total violation of the principals of the community plan," he said. Asked about the outcome of the 2005 re-zoning on the multi ethnic, multi class., mixed use neighborhood, Angotti answered: "25% of the Latino population: Gone! Jobs? Industry? Gone. It's a Yuppie haven, with apartments going for millions of dollars!"

"Bloomberg did 140 re-zonings all over the city and guess what? He protected a lot of the white neighborhoods," Angotti explained. "Now, de Blasio came in and he figured: 'You skipped over some of the neighborhoods.' They're all communities of color, African-American, Latino, Asian. Their argument is that 'We need development! It's inevitable! Gentrification is inevitable and it's a good thing because it brings housing, and we need housing.'"

"There are already enough available units to house every single homeless person now living in shelters in New York City without building anything," Angotti noted. "Landlords all over the city are violating rent regulations. They're throwing people out illegally, forcing them out so that they can convert their buildings to luxury housing. Since when in our long history has building new housing ever solved the housing problem? Everything that gets built by private developers is luxury housing, which drives up all of the existing housing, the rents, and the land costs, and guess who has to move out?"

"It's going on because capital has ments all over the world. Now, we have to say: our neighborhoods aren't here to be your safe deposit box."

"Mayor de Blasio came in with the 'Tale of Two Cities,' promising he wasn't going to be like Bloomberg. So, every neighborhood that is being re-zoned is having 'conversations' to deal with concerns. All of that is phony," Angotti said. "You produce a plan, like the East Harlem Plan, which looks good, sounds good, has a lot of great ideas, but it's not law. It could be thrown out the window the day after the city approves your re-zoning."

"If the Mayor and the City Council were to go to "confession," Angotti joked, "and say to us 'wow, we made a mistake – and we're going to do it differently – it would be a different story. But they're following the same pattern as billionaire Bloomberg and the dictates of the real estate industry which insists that the only way to solve the housing crisis is to build more luxury housing!"

THE EAST HARLEM NEIGHBORHOOD SHAM

City Council Speaker Mark-Viverito's claim that the East Harlem Neighborhood Plan [EHNP] is the first time that the city has convened meetings to "include" community voices is absurd. In fact, it is the same tactic used by Mayor Bloomberg to re-zone 125th Street, where similar neighborhood meetings were held, and a "book" was published, full of distorted quotes promoting the perception that the plan was embraced by Harlem residents.

Her claim that the EHNP serves as a "pro-active" tool for government to negotiate with developers is equally ridiculous. Case in point: the lone supermarket on 116th Street that is about to be demolished to make way for market rate housing. Mark-Viverito publicly lamented the developer's refusal to rent the ground floor space to the food merchant, while downplaying the fact that her re-zoning plan would allow for a 35 story building in that area.

Then there's the matter of the Pathmark (and post office) that the Extell Corporation is demolishing to make way for luxury towers. Public protests to the dollars in fines issued against negligent landlords in 2014.

According to Next City magazine [See nextcity.org -- Ed.], the expired 421 a program which provided tax exemptions to developers like Donald Trump, "cost the city more than $1.2 billion in foregone revenue in 2016. Data are starting to show that the city isn't getting much, if anything, in return for that annual subsidy to developers. In 2014, one analysis found that the program covered 152,402 residential units, estimating only 12,748 of those units had affordability restrictions of some kind." As The Village Voice notes, "City Hall will have to scramble to somehow keep rent stabilized units from entering the free market, while also figuring out where to get funds to help pay for the construction of new affordable and supportive housing. As a real estate magnate and landlord, Trump is [also] an opponent of fair housing laws, several of which prohibit discrimination of prospective tenants based on race, gender, or orientation."

Mayor de Blasio's new Mandatory Inclusionary Housing [MIH] program also offers no guarantees to East Harlem residents, since developers in "emerging markets" such as El Barrio can still opt for 70% market rate units, with the remaining 30% set at rates for incomes ranging from $82,920 to $103,560. They can also build segregated affordable units off site and as far away as one half mile or contribute to a "payment in lieu" fund that would not be managed locally. MIH requirements might also be reduced or waived through "hardship appeal" claims.

There is also a pending federal lawsuit challenging New York City's community preference rule for affordable housing lotteries. The lawsuit, which claims that the city's policy "encourages segregation and constitutes illegal housing discrimination," was filed by Craig Gurian, an "anti discrimination" attorney who successfully sued Westchester County and then pocketed the $10 million dollar award. City Limits reports that "the ADC lawsuit could change that calculus for the 14 neighborhoods whose re-zonings are yet to come. For that reason, affordable housing

Continued On Page 22

TRUMP STRATEGIST STEVE BANNON: ALT NAZI XENOPHOBE

By Paul DeRienzo

On November 13, Steve Bannon, "executive chair" of fascist Breitbart News, was named "chief strategist" and "senior counselor" to president elect Donald Trump. Bannon had previously managed Trump's presidential campaign. Gannon identifies his politics as "conservative," "alt right," or "white nationalist", but his rhetoric is a cover for a blend of pro Israel, pro Klan and nazi views that Bannon used to propel Trump into the presidency.

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the presidential campaign. The result was tacit approval of anti semitic slogans and incidents, such as a Trump supporter who screamed "Jew S A!" at reporters covering a rally in Phoenix and then said, with a shrug of the shoulders, "We're run by the Jews, okay?"

Bannon has denied that the alt right ideology he has promoted through Breitbart and Trump is racist. He prefers, he told Mother Jones, to call it a form of nationalism, similar to that promoted by ethnic

JEFF SESSIONS: RACIST AND "DRUG WAR DINOSAUR" SET TO LEAD DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

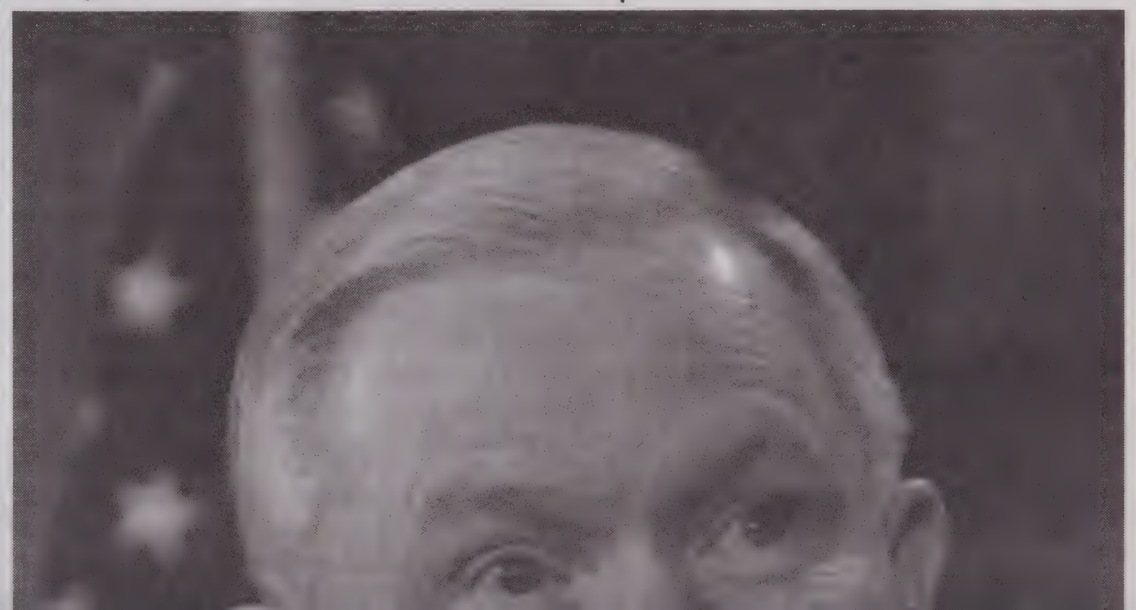
By Paul DeRienzo

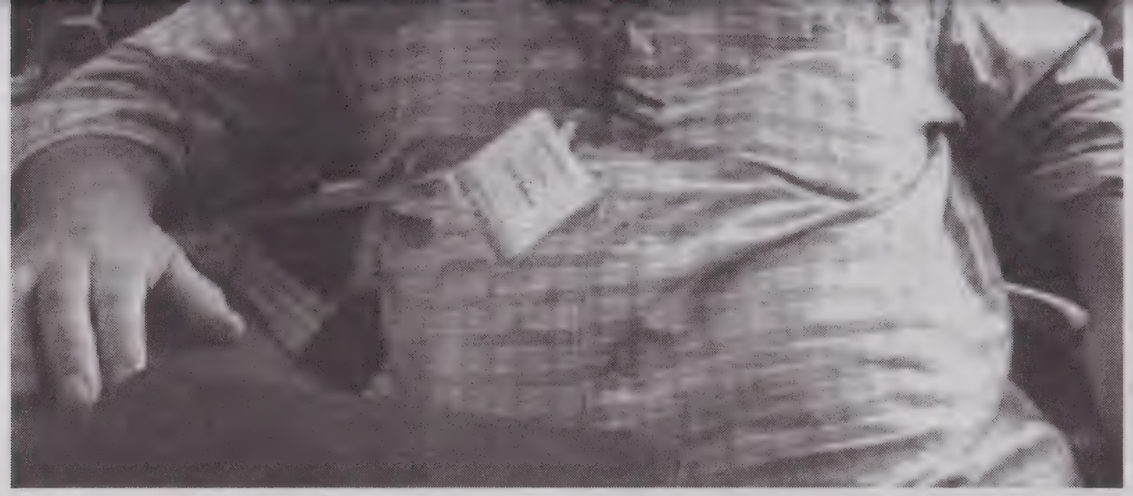
Donald Trump has selected the longtime Alabama white supremacist (and U.S. Senator) Jefferson Beauregard Sessions III as the next US Attorney General. Sessions is one of the nation's most consistent and quotable foes of marijuana legalization. Although legal for 30% of the U.S. population, cannabis remains illegal under federal law. Sessions' past remarks about marijuana point to stormy days ahead for legalization. He has condemned President Barack Obama for saying marijuana is less dangerous than alcohol and for taking a hands off approach that allowed states to regulate recreational pot markets. At a Senate hearing, Sessions predicted that support for state level legalization would "ripple throughout the entire American citizenry" adding, "We need grown ups in charge in Washington to say marijuana is not the kind of thing that ought to be legalized." Sessions praised the "Just Say No" anti drug campaign of former first lady Nancy Reagan and expressed concern about the undoing of years of effort "trying to send that message with clarity that good people don't smoke marijuana."

Ethan Nadelmann, executive director of the pro legalization Drug Policy Alliance, calls Sessions a "drug war dinosaur." Nadelmann says that "There definitely will be a major campaign to block Sen. Sessions' nomination," adding, "Sessions' nomination represents a disaster for all we fought for."

Kevin Sabet is a former presidential drug policy adviser who leads the national anti legalization group Smart Approaches to Marijuana. "Well, let's just say that if I had marijuana stocks right now, I'd be shorting them," he says. "Things are about to get interesting. I'd think marijuana investors–and legalizers–might be rethinking their strategy right now."

At times, Sessions' statements have crossed over to the ridiculous. His nomination as a federal judge in the 1980s was blocked after it was claimed that Sessions said he thought the Ku Klux Klan "was okay until I found out they smoked pot." Sessions made this contemptible statement about the KKK in the aftermath of a trial of two Klansmen for slitting the throat of a Black man in Mobile, Alabama.





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The Breitbart News website was launched by Andrew Breitbart, who died of a heart attack in 2012. Bannon took over the site until he joined the Trump campaign. Although set up as a pro Israel news site, Breitbart News has morphed into a home for screeds obsessed with supposed plotting of Jewish bankers and financiers, like George Soros, who fund progressive causes.

One of Bannon's most fawning defenders is Pamela Geller, a right wing blogger whose efforts to stir up hatred of Muslims have been championed by Breitbart. Geller's vitriol got her added to a list of"extremists" barred from travel to Britain in 2013, on the grounds that her presence could "foster hatred which might lead to inter community violence."

Geller became infamous for leading protests in 2010 against a Muslim cultural center in Lower Manhattan that she called "the Ground Zero Mosque," and staging a cartoon contest for caricatures of the prophet Muhammad in 2015, which succeeded in provoking an attack by Islamist gunmen.

Dan Cassino, an associate professor of Political Science at Fairleigh Dickinson University who studies the right wing media, says that Breitbart has relentlessly pursued the argument that "the left is the

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On his radio show, Steve Bannon promoted Jason Richwine, another fascist lunatic "expert" who claims Hispanics have lower IQs than non Hispanic whites. Bannon calls Richwine "an American hero."

Gannon was also involved with an online attack on women, called "Gamergate." This vicious campaign, which exploded in 2015, was a flood of degrading attacks and terroristic threats against the small number of prominent women in the video game development community. Milo Yiannopoulos, technology editor at Breitbart News, operated as point man in promoting "GamerGate." He wrote, "Women are–and you won't hear this anywhere else–screwing up the internet for men by invading every space we have online…," adding that "Donald Trump and the rest of the alpha males will continue to dominate the internet without feminist whining. It will be fun! Like a big fraternity…"

On the environment, Bannon says that climate change is a hoax. He calls government policies that promote alternative energy sources, like wind and solar power, "madness." He calls proponents of any

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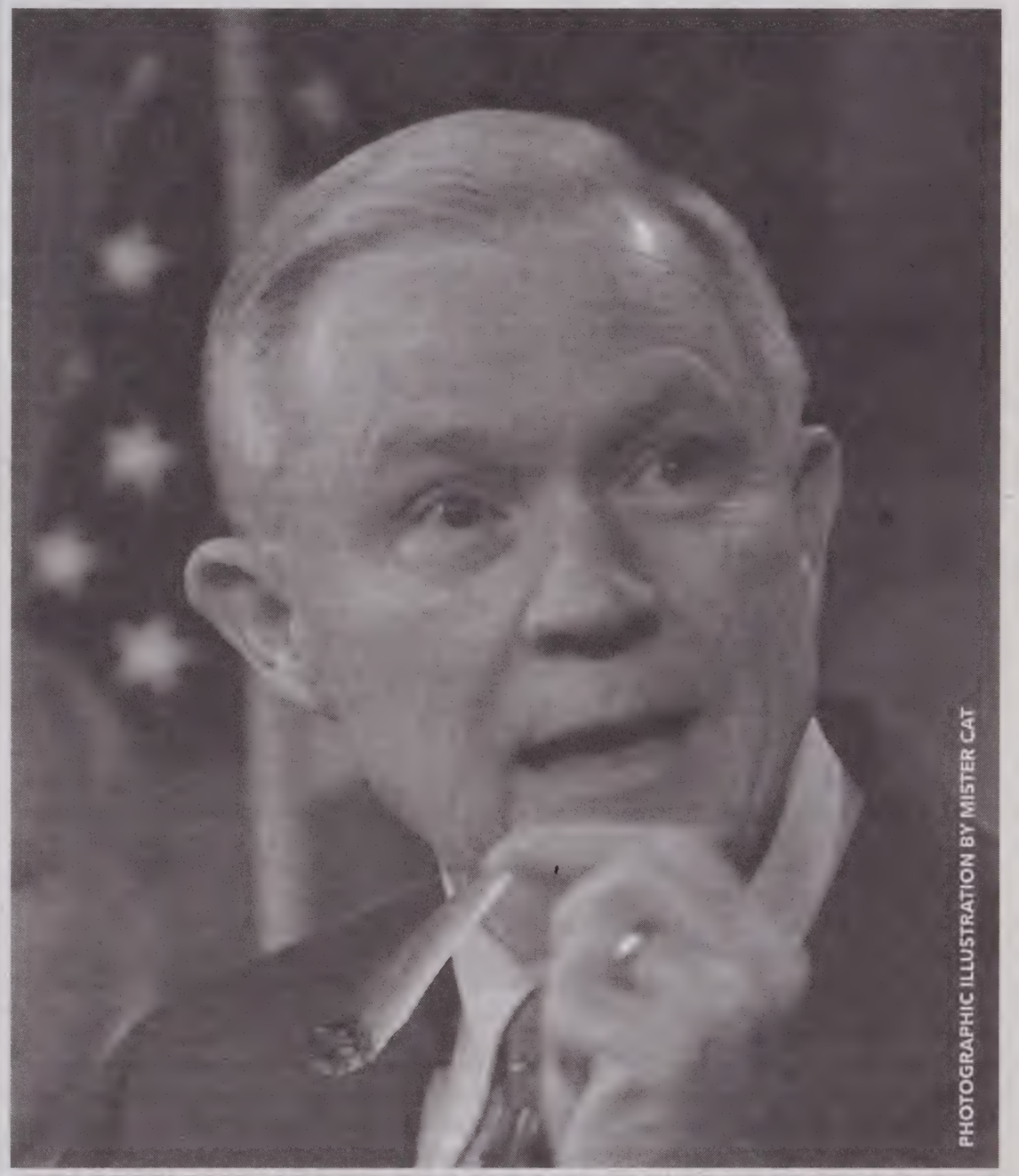

JEFF SESSIONS: "GOOD PEOPLE DON'T SMOKE MARIJUANA."

EAST VILLAGE BOOKS

Best above and underground books on the Lower East Side....culture and counter-culture, including

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Dan Cassino, an associate professor of Political Science at Fairleigh Dickinson University who studies the right wing media, says that Breitbart has relentlessly pursued the argument that "the left is the enemy, but Jews on the left are worse because they are traitors" who are "selling out Israel." Bannon realized that its site was attracting a huge readership by "posting what amounts to anti semitic headlines," attacking American Jews deemed to be "not sufficiently pro Israel."

That Breitbart's right wing Jewish writers are willing to use anti semitism to attack their left wing Jewish enemies as "self hating" enemies of Israel was mirrored by the tacit assent from Trump's Jewish supporters, and son in law Jared Kushner, to Bannon's use of such tactics in

bart and Trump is racist. He prefers, he told Mother Jones, to call it a form of nationalism, similar to that promoted by ethnic nationalist parties across Europe, which are also animated by a shared hatred for Muslims. But the articles Breitbart News runs are often fascist in content and tone.

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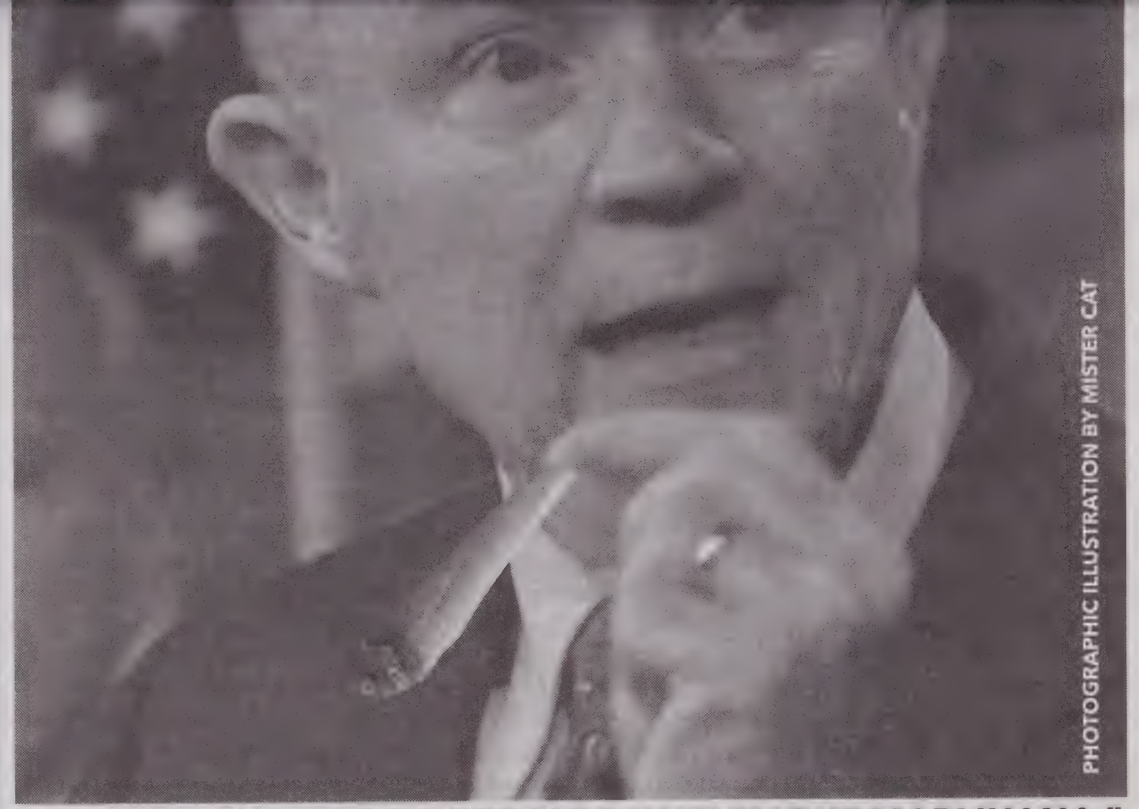
On the environment, Bannon says that climate change is a hoax. He calls government policies that promote alternative energy sources, like wind and solar power, "madness." He calls proponents of any government support for alternative energy "pure scum."

On November 18, Bannon, responding to criticisms about him, said: "Darkness is good: Dick Cheney. Darth Vader. Satan. That's power. It only helps us when they get it wrong. When they're blind to who we are and what we're doing."

Steve Bannon is misogynist, racist, promotes hatred for LGBT people, whips up xenophobia, and is anti semitic. He is also chief strategist for President elect Donald Trump. A harsh reality for activists to confront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JEFF SESSIONS: "GOOD PEOPLE DON'T SMOKE MARIJUANA."

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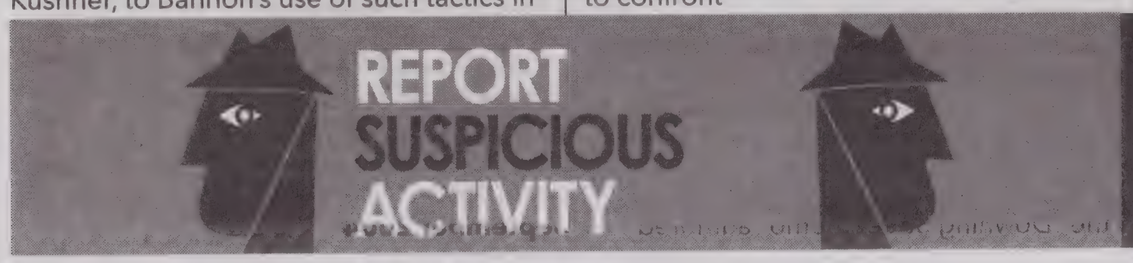

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NEOCON FASCISTS TO ADVISE TRUMP

By Paul DeRienzo

President elect Donald J. Trump has offered the post of National Security Adviser to retired three star General Michael T. Flynn, a neo-conservative war hawk with rabid anti Muslim views. The National Security Advisor is the key coordinator of implementing the president's foreign policy decisions. Flynn, seen as one of Trump's closest and most trusted advisors, claims that the U.S. is in a global war, not just against Islamic jihadists, but against Islam itself. It's not really a religion, Flynn argues, but a dangerous political ideology. Flynn has called Islam a "cancer" and said "fear of Muslims is rational." In April 2015, he told Fox News: "I've been at war with Islam, or a component of Islam, for the last decade."

The position of National Security Advisor has been held in the past by, among others, Henry Kissinger, who was responsible for numerous war crimes and the death of millions under President Richard Nixon. Serving President Ronald Reagan, National Security Adviser John Poindexter was convicted of lying to congress about the Iran Contra affair, along with another Reagan advisor, Robert McFarlane, who plead guilty to withholding information from Congress regarding arm sales to Iran. He was pardoned by President George H.W. Bush in 1992.

During the invasions of Afghanistan in 2001 and Iraq in 2003, the position was held by Condoleezza Rice, who worked closely with Vice President Dick Cheney in spreading the false story that Iraq was attempting to acquire uranium "yellow cake" ore from the African nation of Niger. That hoax, perpetrated by Rice, was credited as a major psychological operations tool in selling the Iraq invasion to the public.

General Flynn, who will be a "critical gatekeeper for a president with little experience in military or foreign policy issues", according to the New York Times, served as Director of the Defense Intelligence Agency [DIA] under President Barack Obama and was reportedly fired for his ultra right pro- war views toward Iran at a time when Islamic State (or ISIS) with Iran, claiming in his blog that: "It seems that Iran gave ISIS support, in keeping with its well documented practice of supporting all sides in other countries' internal conflicts." Ledeen argued that regime change was the only way to stop the country's nuclear activities. Iranian opposition groups are "willing to fight" and "we should help them."

Ledeen also played a major role in advising the White House after the 2003 invasion of Iraq. The Washington Post highlighted his influence within the George W. Bush administration, citing him as one of several elites consulted by powerful White House advisor Karl Rove. The Post reported that Ledeen said that Bush told him at a meeting after his election: "Anytime you have a good idea, tell me." Ledeen has seen his ideas, faxed to Rove, become official policy or rhetoric more than once. In May 2003, Brown University professor William Beeman drew attention to Ledeen's clout, writing: "Most Americans have never heard of Michael Ledeen, but if the United States ends up in an extended shooting war throughout the Middle East, it will be largely due to his inspiration."

Ledeen was especially involved in the Iran Contra affair in which it was revealed in 1986 that appointees of President Ronald Reagan had run a secret operation out of the White House to trade arms to Iran for American hostages held in Lebanon. The scheme was paid for by an underground network of Central American drug traffickers and arms traders linked with the CIA – who sold cocaine in the United States.

Fox Butterfield of the New York Times wrote that in the early stages of the Iran contra affair, Ledeen acted as a go between for the Reagan administration

"Every ten years or so, the United States needs to pick up some small crappy little country and throw it against the wall, just to show the world we mean business."

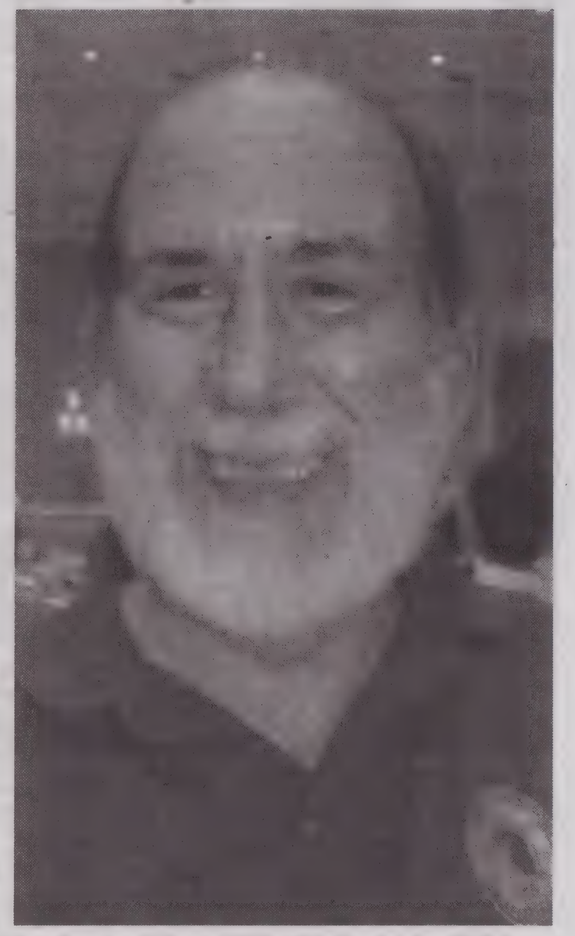
• • •

"Powerful dictatorships . . . need to stage wars to get ordinary people to march in lockstep like mindless Nazi robots. That is the road to Greatness."

–Michael Ledeen

Michael Ledeen, who was a National Security Council consultant in the mid 1980s when he introduced Mr. Ghorbanifar to Oliver North, a NSC (National Security Council) aide, and others in the opening stages of the Iran Contra affair. It is understood Mr. Ledeen reopened the Ghorbanifar channel with Mr. Feith's staff."*

Douglas J. Feith was appointed Undersecretary of Defense for Policy for President George W. Bush in 2001, creating the Office of Strategic Influence to support the War on Terror. One of Feith's most famous reports in that role falsely linked al Qaeda with Iraq under Saddam Hussein. False intelligence reports from



for UK Prime Minister Tony Blair that "the intelligence and facts were being fixed around the policy" of war with Iraq in Washington.

Shortly after the British memo, a New York Times report authored by Judith Miller and Michael R. Gordan falsely depicted metal tubes shipped to Iraq as "centrifuges for a nuclear weapons program." Condoleezza Rice, Colin Powell and Donald Rumsfeld all cited this information as basis for going to war with Iraq.

The CIA was reportedly divided over the story and sent analyst Joseph Wilson to Niger to investigate whether Iraq had tried to purchase uranium. Wilson found conclusive evidence that there have been no sales of the ore outside of sanctioned channels and told the government that

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Flynn also fear-mongers that Israel faces a surprise attack from Iran and that the United States must fear all Muslims as part of an amorphous hate-filled anti American force. Flynn has said that the fight against Islam should begin in the United States itself. In his book, "The Field of Fight: How We Can Win the Global War Against Radical Islam and Its Allies", Flynn declares: "If we cannot criticize the radical Muslims in our own country, we cannot fight them either in America or overseas." Flynn has called for aggressive actions against Iran in particular. He targets an "enemy alliance that runs from Pyongyang, North Korea, to Havana, Cuba, and Caracas, Venezuela" – and includes "Iran, al Qaeda, the Taliban and Islamic State." At times, Flynn includes Russia in this enemies list.

Who is General Flynn? Where did he come from and what does he represent within the power structure of the United States? The search begins with the co author of Flynn's book, an academic neo-con and hard- core warmonger who has haunted U.S. politics for decades named Michael A. Ledeen.

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PRESIDENT ELECT DONALD TRUMP'S PROPOSED NATIONAL SECURITY ADVISOR GENERAL MICHAEL T. FLYNN

and Israeli spy David Kimche to gain the release of U.S. hostages in Beirut through an Iranian arms dealer, Manucher Ghorbanifar. According to Oliver North, it was Ghorbanifar who came up with the idea for diverting the profits from covert sales of anti tank missiles to Iran to the Nicaraguan contras. The Tower Commission

That is the road to Greatness."

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Michael Ledeen, who was a National Security Council consultant in the mid 1980s when he introduced Mr. Ghorbanifar to Oliver North, a NSC (National Security Council) aide, and others in the opening stages of the Iran Contra affair. It is understood Mr. Ledeen reopened the Ghorbanifar channel with Mr. Feith's staff."*

Douglas J. Feith was appointed Undersecretary of Defense for Policy for President George W. Bush in 2001, creating the Office of Strategic Influence to support the War on Terror. One of Feith's most famous reports in that role falsely linked al Qaeda with Iraq under Saddam Hussein. False intelligence reports from the government during the run up to the Iraq invasion lured many Americans into supporting the war in Iraq as retaliation for the 9/11 attacks. In 2009, Feith became one of several Bush Administration officials considered for investigation of possible war crimes in a court headed by Spanish jurist Baltasar Garzón. The case has reportedly still been active as of 2011

Ledeen helped set up a Defense Department meeting in December 2001 with Iranian dissidents Ahmad Chalabi and the Iraqi National Congress after the World Trade Center attacks. Washington Monthly reported that the meetings suggest the possibility that a rogue faction at the Pentagon was working outside normal US foreign policy channels to advance a 'regime change' agenda not

for UK Prime Minister Tony Blair that "the intelligence and facts were being fixed around the policy" of war with Iraq in Washington.

Shortly after the British memo, a New York Times report authored by Judith Miller and Michael R. Gordan falsely depicted metal tubes shipped to Iraq as "centrifuges for a nuclear weapons program." Condoleezza Rice, Colin Powell and Donald Rumsfeld all cited this information as basis for going to war with Iraq.

The CIA was reportedly divided over the story and sent analyst Joseph Wilson to Niger to investigate whether Iraq had tried to purchase uranium. Wilson found conclusive evidence that there have been no sales of the ore outside of sanctioned channels and told the government that claims of an attempt by Iraq to get uranium from Niger were not credible. Several months later, Lewis "Scooter" Libby, a prominent neo-conservative and advisor to Vice President Dick Cheney, vindictively leaked secret information that Wilson's wife Valerie Plame was a CIA operative, ruining her usefulness as an agent, while violating laws against outing intelligence agents. Eventually Libby was convicted of perjury, sentenced to 30 months in jail and later pardoned by President George W. Bush.

There had never been, nor could there be, cooperation between the government of Saddam Hussein and the shadowy network built by Osama bin Laden, both separated by a wide chasm of ideology and interests. The invasion of Iraq, born of lies, false news reports and greed, would eventually cost a million civilian lives, with 5,000 American soldiers killed and more than 30,000 wounded. It would leave Iraq mired in civil war, while threatening peace in Turkey, Syria and Saudi Arabia. The lawlessness that descended on Iraq after the invasion would spawn terrorist groups with much greater firepower and reach than al Qaeda.

With the advice and consent of the U.S. Senate, Lt. General Michael T. Flynn and his neo-con coterie will soon regain control of U.S. foreign policy to pursue their agenda of war with Iran more recklessly than ever. The rights of citizens to speak out against

Director of the Defense Intelligence Agency [DIA] under President Barack Obama and was reportedly fired for his ultra right pro- war views toward Iran at a time when the Obama administration was negotiating a deal with that nation. Flynn opposed the Obama peace agreement with Iran, testifying before congress that "regime change in Tehran is the best way to stop the Iranian nuclear weapons program."

Flynn also fear-mongers that Israel faces a surprise attack from Iran and that the United States must fear all Muslims as part of an amorphous hate-filled anti American force. Flynn has said that the fight against Islam should begin in the United States itself. In his book, "The Field of Fight: How We Can Win the Global War Against Radical Islam and Its Allies", Flynn declares: "If we cannot criticize the radical Muslims ' in our own country, we cannot fight them either in America or overseas." Flynn has called for aggressive actions against Iran in particular. He targets an "enemy alliance that runs from Pyongyang, North Korea, to Havana, Cuba, and Caracas, Venezuela" – and includes "Iran, al Qaeda, the Taliban and Islamic State." At times, Flynn includes Russia in this enemies list.

Who is General Flynn? Where did he come from and what does he represent within the power structure of the United States? The search begins with the co author of Flynn's book, an academic neo-con and hard- core warmonger who has haunted U.S. politics for decades named Michael A. Ledeen.

Ledeen has supported U.S. war and interventionism from the CIA backed Contra wars in Central America during the 1980s to the present "war on terror" aimed at the people he calls "Islamofascists." His politics are often in line with Israel's right wing Likud Party and he is known for his insistent advocacy of a U.S. war against Iran. Ledeen has accused President Obama of being anti American and supporting terrorists. He told a conservative radio pundit that Obama "doesn't like America and he doesn't like us." The reason for his vitriolic hatred is that "We have a war to fight and this president isn't going to fight that war. This president is, if anything, on the other side."

Ledeen has also sought to link the

PRESIDENT ELECT DONALD TRUMP'S PROPOSED NATIONAL SECURITY ADVISOR GENERAL MICHAEL T. FLYNN

and Israeli spy David Kimche to gain the release of U.S. hostages in Beirut through an Iranian arms dealer, Manucher Ghorbanifar. According to Oliver North, it was Ghorbanifar who came up with the idea for diverting the profits from covert sales of anti tank missiles to Iran to the Nicaraguan contras. The Tower Commission Report into the Iran Contra scandal found that Ledeen helped initiate the effort to use Israeli contacts to pursue an arms for hostages deal with Iran.

After the 2001 attacks on the World Trade Center, the same associates

from Iran Contra days resurfaced in articles about Ledeen's push for regime change in Iran. The Sydney Morning Herald reported that Ledeen worked with Pentagon staffers to redevelop the channel to arms dealer Ghorbanifar in an effort to assist resistance groups in Iran. Reported the Herald: "[Harold] Rhode recently acted as a liaison between [Douglas] Feith's office ... and Ahmed Chalabi, a former Iraqi exile groomed for leadership by the Pentagon. Mr. Rhode is a protégé of

ing in December 2001 with Iranian dissidents Ahmad Chalabi and the Iraqi National Congress after the World Trade Center attacks. Washington Monthly reported that the meetings suggest the possibility that a rogue faction at the Pentagon was working outside normal US foreign policy channels to advance a 'regime change' agenda not approved by the president."**

Shortly after the meeting with Chalabi and after Ledeen was admonished by Deputy National Security Advisor Stephen J. Hadley for having this unauthorized meeting – Ledeen organized a follow up meeting in Rome including Ghorbanifar and Italian Defense Minister Antonio Martino. After the Rome meeting, reports of an Iraqi deal to purchase yellow cake uranium ore from the African nation of Niger appeared. The source of the alleged information was Italy's right wing Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi. The International Atomic Energy Agency later found it was based on forged documents.

The uranium sales allegation was key to the "Downing Street memo" authored with Iraq under Saddam Hussein. False intelligence reports from the government during the run up to the Iraq invasion lured many Americans into supporting the war in Iraq as retaliation for the 9/11 attacks. In 2009, Feith became one of several Bush Administration officials considered for investigation of possible war crimes in a court headed by Spanish jurist Baltasar Garzón. The case has reportedly still been active as of 2011

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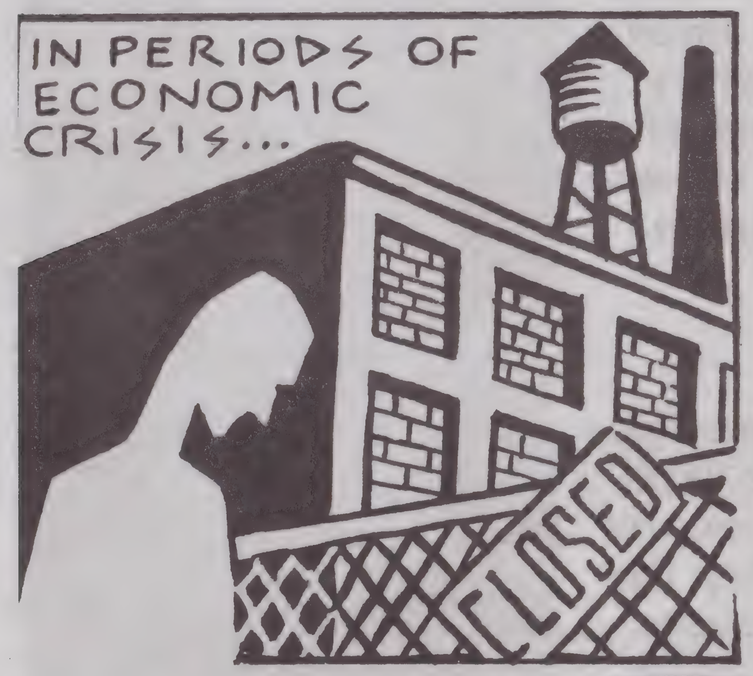
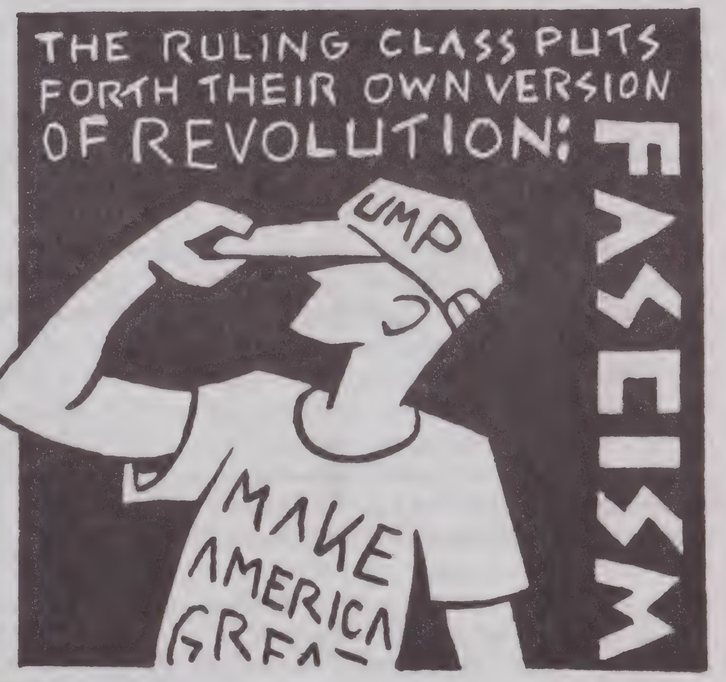
With the advice and consent of the U.S. Senate, Lt. General Michael T. Flynn and his neo-con coterie will soon regain control of U.S. foreign policy to pursue their agenda of war with Iran more recklessly than ever. The rights of citizens to speak out against these crimes and their perpetrators will be violated with impunity and untold more will likely die. Carried out officially and backed by the vast power of the United States, these travesties can only be opposed by the collective power of the people.

[Thanks: Counterpunch, Right Web, Revolution, LobeLog, United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, Holocaust Encyclopedia.

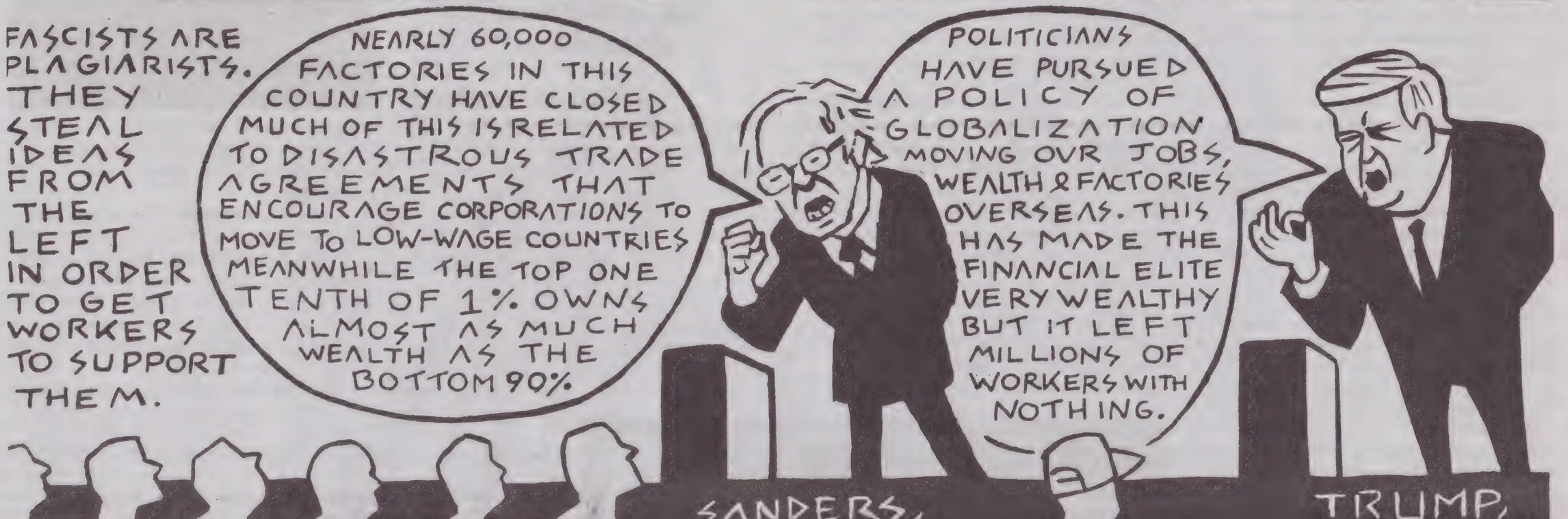
Notes: *Knut Royce and Timothy Phelps, "Arms Dealer in Talks with U.S. Officials about Iran," Sydney Morning Herald, August 9, 2003; **Joshua Micah Marshall, Laura Rozen, and Paul Glastris, "Iran Contra II?" Washington Monthly, September 2004

DEFINE FASCISM.





FASCISTS ARE PLAGIARISTS. THEY STEAL IDEAS FROM THE LEFT IN ORDER TO GET WORKERS TO SUPPORT THEM.



CLOSED
MAKE AMERICA GREAT
FASCISTS ARE PLAGIARISTS. THEY STEAL IDEAS FROM THE LEFT IN ORDER TO GET WORKERS TO SUPPORT THEM.
NEARLY 60,000 FACTORIES IN THIS COUNTRY HAVE CLOSED MUCH OF THIS IS RELATED TO DISASTROUS TRADE AGREEMENTS THAT ENCOURAGE CORPORATIONS TO MOVE TO LOW-WAGE COUNTRIES MEANWHILE THE TOP ONE TENTH OF 1% OWNS ALMOST AS MUCH WEALTH AS THE BOTTOM 90%
POLITICIANS HAVE PURSUED A POLICY OF GLOBALIZATION MOVING OVR JOBS, WEALTH & FACTORIES OVERSEAS. THIS HAS MADE THE FINANCIAL ELITE VERY WEALTHY BUT IT LEFT MILLIONS OF WORKERS WITH NOTHING.
SANDERS, LEFTIST
TRUMP, FASCIST.
WHEN MEXICO SENDS PEOPLE THEY BRING DRUGS. THEY BRING CRIME! THEY ARE RAPISTS!
FASCISTS COMBINE SOCIALIST IDEAS WITH RACISM & NATIONALISM
GO BACK TO AFRICA!
FASCISTS MAY APPEAR TO RALLY THE WORKING CLASS BUT THEIR TRUE LOYALTY IS TO OTHER RICH FOLKS.
TAX CUTS
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TAX CUTS

DEREG-ULATION

WE MUST GIVE POWER BACK TO THE POLICE.

FASCISTS COURT THE COPS...

OUR PEOPLE PLAYED A HUGE ROLE IN GETTING TRUMP ELECTED.

AND THE KLAN.

FASCISTS ARE MACHO.

THERE'S OFTEN A TRANSGRESSIVE SEXUALITY ASSOCIATED WITH FASCIST LEADERS.

BUT

FASCISTS ARE OBSESSED WITH MALE POWER & TREAT WOMEN WITH CONTEMPT SO FASCISTS ARE

NATURAL ALLIES TO THE CHRISTIAN RIGHT.

THEY RAPE NATURE.

I WILL LIFT RESTRICTIONS ON PRODUCTION OF SHALE, OIL COAL & GAS.

THE KEYSTONE PIPELINE MUST MOVE FORWARD

THE FASCIST IDEAL IS AN ALL POWERFUL NATION-STATE IN WHICH THE GOVERNMENT IS ALLIED WITH NATIONAL BUSINESS INTERESTS AND BUYS OFF ONE SECTION OF THE WORKING-CLASS, MEMBERS OF THE DOMINANT NATIONALITY. BY GRANTING THEM PRIVILEGES OVER OTHERS. WE KNOW THE RESULTS OF FASCISM IN GERMANY, ITALY, SPAIN, CHILE.

FREEDOM

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MAKE AMERICA GREAT AGAIN

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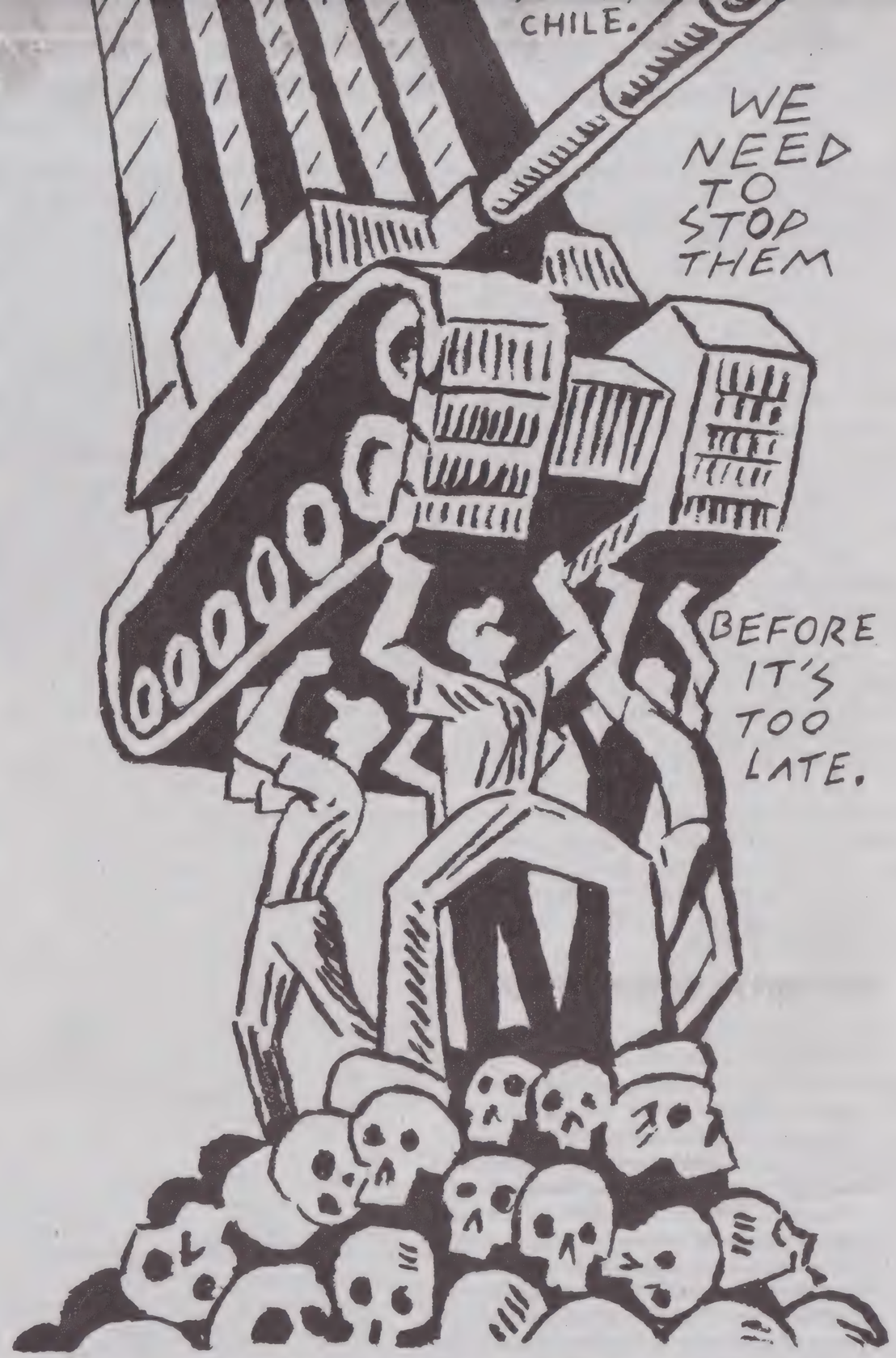
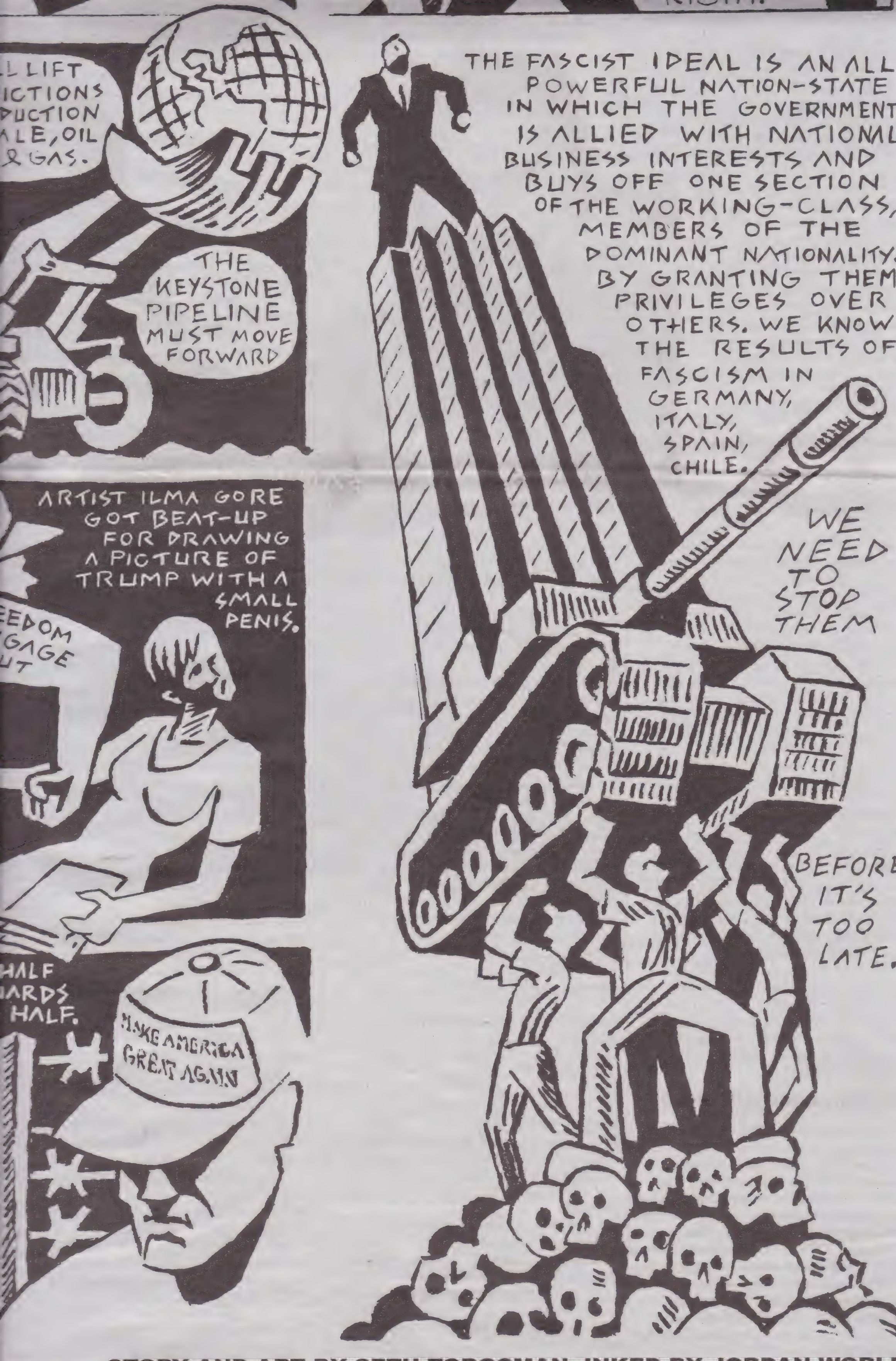
WE NEED TO STOP THEM

BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE.



STORY AND ART BY SETH TOBOCMAN, INKED BY JORDAN WORLEY



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WHY GADDAFI HAD TO GO: AFRICAN GOLD, OIL AND THE CHALLENGE TO MONETARY IMPERIALISM

By Ellen Brown [from The Ecologist – theecologist.org]

[What was NATO's violent intervention in Libya really all about? Now we know, writes Ellen Brown, thanks to Hillary Clinton's recently published emails. It was to prevent the creation of an independent hard currency in Africa that would free the continent from economic bondage under the dollar, the IMF and the French African franc, shaking off the last heavy chains of colonial exploitation.]

The brief visit of then Secretary of State Hillary Clinton to Libya in October 2011 was referred to by the media as a "victory lap."

"We came, we saw, he died!" she crowed in a CBS video interview on hearing of the capture and brutal murder of Libyan leader Muammar el Gaddafi.

But the victory lap, write Scott Shane and Jo Becker in the New York Times, was premature. Libya was relegated to the back burner by the State Department, "as the country dissolved into chaos, leading to a civil war that would destabilize the region, fueling the refugee crisis in Europe and allowing the Islamic State to establish a Libyan haven that the United States is now desperately trying to contain."

US NATO intervention was allegedly undertaken on humanitarian grounds, after reports of mass atrocities; but human rights organizations questioned the claims after finding a lack of evidence. Today, however, verifiable atrocities are occurring.

As Dan Kovalik wrote in the Huffington Post, "the human rights situation in Libya is a disaster, as 'thousands of detainees [including children] languish in prisons without proper judicial review,' and

alternative to the French franc (CFA)."

In a 'source comment', the original declassified email adds:

"According to knowledgeable individuals this quantity of gold and silver is valued at more than $7 billion. French intelligence officers discovered this plan shortly after the current rebellion began, and this was one of the factors that influenced President Nicolas Sarkozy's decision to commit France to the attack on Libya. According to these individuals Sarkozy's plans are driven by the following issues:

1. A desire to gain a greater share of Libya oil production,

2. Increase French influence in North Africa,

3. Improve his internal political situa-

create most of the money in Western economies, as the Bank of England recently acknowledged. This has been going on for centuries, through the process called 'fractional reserve' lending. Originally, the reserves were in gold. In 1933, President Franklin Roosevelt replaced gold domestically with central bank created reserves, but gold remained the reserve currency internationally.

In 1944, the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank were created in Bretton Woods, New Hampshire, to unify this bank created money system globally. An IMF ruling said that no paper money could have gold backing.

A money supply created privately as debt at interest requires a continual

2004, a pan African Parliament (53 nations) laid plans for the African Economic Community with a single gold currency by 2023.

"African oil producing nations were planning to abandon the petro dollar, and demand gold payment for oil/gas."

SHOWING WHAT IS POSSIBLE

Gaddafi had done more than organize an African monetary coup. He had demonstrated that financial independence could be achieved. His greatest infrastructure project, the Great Man made River, was turning arid regions into a breadbasket for Libya; and the $33 billion project was being funded interest free without foreign debt, through Libya's own state owned bank.

That could explain why this critical piece of infrastructure was destroyed in 2011. NATO not only bombed the pipeline, but finished off the project by bombing the factory producing the pipes necessary to repair it.

Crippling a civilian irrigation system serving up to 70% of the population hardly looks like humanitarian intervention. Rather, as Canadian Professor Maximilian Forte put it in his heavily-researched book Slouching Towards Sirte: NATO's War on Libya and Africa, "the goal of US military intervention was to disrupt an emerging pattern of independence and a network of collaboration within Africa that would facilitate increased African self

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Before 2011, Libya had achieved economic independence, with its own water, its own food, its own oil, its own money, and its own state owned bank. It had arisen under Gaddafi from one of the poorest of countries to the richest in Africa.

Education and medical treatment were free; having a home was considered a human right; and Libyans participated in an original system of local democracy. The country boasted the world's largest irrigation system, the Great Man made River project, which brought water from the desert to the cities and coastal areas; and Gaddafi was embarking on a program to spread this model throughout Africa.

But that was before US NATO forces bombed the irrigation system and

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1. A desire to gain a greater share of Libya oil production,

2. Increase French influence in North Africa,

3. Improve his internal political situation in France,

4. Provide the French military with an opportunity to reassert its position in the world,

5. Address the concern of his advisors over Gaddafi's long term plans to supplant France as the dominant power in Francophone Africa."

Conspicuously absent is any mention of humanitarian concerns. The objectives are money, power and oil.

Other explosive confirmations in the newly published emails are detailed by investigative journalist Robert Parry. They include admissions of rebel war crimes, of special-ops trainers inside Libya from nearly the start of protests, and of Al Qaeda embedded in the US backed opposition

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A money supply created privately as debt at interest requires a continual supply of debtors; and over the next half century, most developing countries wound up in debt to the IMF. The loans came with strings attached, including 'structural adjustment' policies involving austerity measures and privatization of public assets.

After 1944, the US dollar traded interchangeably with gold as global reserve currency. When the US was no longer able to maintain the dollar's gold backing, in the 1970s, it made a deal with OPEC to 'back' the dollar with oil, creating the 'petro dollar'. Oil would be sold only in US dollars, which would be deposited in Wall Street and other international banks.

In 2001, dissatisfied with the shrinking value of the dollars that OPEC was getting for its oil, Iraq's Saddam Hussein broke the

CUBAN LEADER FIDEL CASTRO WITH LIBYAN LEADER MUAMMAR GADDAFI

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MYSTERY SOLVED

Hilary Clinton's emails shed light on another enigma remarked on by early commentators. Why, within weeks of initiating fighting, did the rebels set up their own central bank? Robert Wenzel wrote in The Economic Policy Journal in 2011:

"This suggests we have a bit more than a rag tag bunch of rebels running around and that there are some pretty sophisticated influences. I have never before heard of a central bank being created in just a matter of weeks out of a popular uprising."

It was all highly suspicious, but as Alex

'thousands of detainees [including children] languish in prisons without proper judicial review,' and 'kidnappings and targeted killings are rampant'."

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But that was before US NATO forces bombed the irrigation system and wreaked havoc on the country. Today the situation is so dire that President Obama has asked his advisors to draw up options including a new military front in Libya, and the Defense Department is reportedly standing ready with "the full spectrum of military operations required."

The Secretary of State's victory lap was indeed premature, if what we're talking about is the officially stated goal of humanitarian intervention. But her newly released emails reveal another agenda behind the Libyan war; and this one, it seems, was achieved.

MISSION ACCOMPLISHED?

Of the 3,000 emails released from Hillary Clinton's private email server in late December 2015, about a third were from her close confidante Sidney Blumenthal, the attorney who defended her husband in the Monica Lewinsky case. One of these emails, dated April 2, 2011, reads in part:

"Gaddafi's government holds 143 tons of gold, and a similar amount in silver ... This gold was accumulated prior to the current rebellion and was intended to be used to establish a pan African currency based on the Libyan golden Dinar. This plan was designed to provide the Francophone African Countries with an alternative to the French Franc. It is currently used by fourteen countries and is guaranteed by France. This currency would directly challenge the dominance of the French Franc and the euro. Libya has enough gold to back the currency and provide for substantial growth. Libya's plan was to implement the currency system throughout Africa. Libya has close ties to the Chinese and the Chinese have been working with Libya to establish a new African bank. Libya has also been working with the Chinese to establish a new African satellite system. Libya has also been working with the Chinese to establish a new African satellite system. Libya has also been working with the Chinese to establish a new African satellite system

INSIDE THE INVISIBLE GOVERNMENT: WAR, PROPAGANDA, CLINTON AND TRUMP

By John Pilger

[Editor's Note: What follows was written by investigative journalist John Pilger on October 27, just 12 days before the November 8 presidential election.]

The American journalist, Edward Bernays, is often described as the man who invented modern propaganda.

The nephew of Sigmund Freud, the pioneer of psycho analysis, it was Bernays who coined the term "public relations" as a euphemism for spin and its deceptions.

In 1929, he persuaded feminists to promote cigarettes for women by smoking in the New York Easter Parade behaviour then considered outlandish. One feminist, Ruth Booth, declared, "Women! Light another torch of freedom! Fight another sex taboo!"

Bernays' influence extended far beyond advertising. His greatest success was his role in convincing the American public to join the slaughter of the First World War. The secret, he said, was "engineering the consent" of people in order to "control and regiment [them] according to our will without their knowing about it".

He described this as "the true ruling power in our society" and called it an "invisible government".

Today, the invisible government has never been more powerful and less understood. In my career as a journalist and film maker, I have never known propaganda to insinuate our lives and as it does now and to go unchallenged.

Imagine two cities. Both are under the bad guys, condemned for assaulting and bombing the city which is exactly what the good soldiers do in the first city.

Confusing? Not really. Such is the basic double standard that is the essence of propaganda. I am referring, of course, to the current siege of the city of Mosul by the government forces of Iraq, who are backed by the United States and Britain and to the siege of Aleppo by the government forces of Syria, backed by Russia. One is good; the other is bad.

What is seldom reported is that both cities would not be occupied by fanatics and ravaged by war if Britain and the United States had not invaded Iraq in 2003. That criminal enterprise was launched on lies strikingly similar to the propaganda that now distorts our understanding of the civil war in Syria.

Without this drumbeat of propaganda dressed up as news, the monstrous ISIS and Al Qaida and al Nusra and the rest of the jihadist gang might not exist, and the people of Syria might not be fighting for their lives today.

Some may remember in 2003 a succession of BBC reporters turning to the camera and telling us that Blair was "vindicated" for what turned out to be the crime of the century. The US television networks produced the same validation for George W. Bush. Fox News brought on Henry Kissinger to effuse over Colin Powell's fabrications.

The same year, soon after the invasion, I filmed an interview in Washington with millions of refugees; there would be no miserable camps.

When the terrorist atrocity happened in Paris last November, President Francoise Hollande immediately sent planes to bomb Syria and more terrorism followed, predictably, the product of Hollande's bombast about France being "at war" and "showing no mercy". That state violence and jihadist violence feed off each other is the truth that no national leader has the courage to speak.

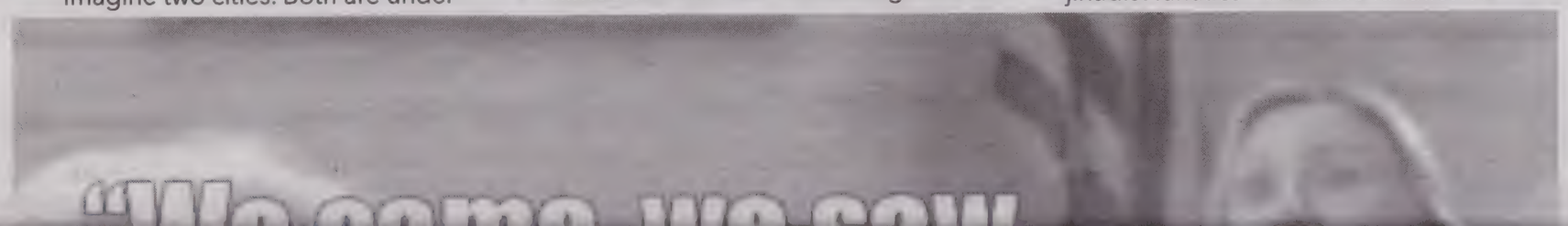
"When the truth is replaced by silence," said the Soviet dissident Yevtushenko, "the silence is a lie."

The attack on Iraq, the attack on Libya, the attack on Syria happened because the leader in each of these countries was not a puppet of the West. The human rights record of a Saddam or a Gaddafi was irrelevant. They did not obey orders and surrender control of their country.

The same fate awaited Slobodan Milosevic once he had refused to sign an "agreement" that demanded the occupation of Serbia and its conversion to a market economy. His people were bombed, and he was prosecuted in The Hague. Independence of this kind is intolerable.

As WikLeaks has revealed, it was only when the Syrian leader Bashar al Assad in 2009 rejected an oil pipeline, running through his country from Qatar to Europe, that he was attacked.

From that moment, the CIA planned to destroy the government of Syria with jihadist fanatics the same fanatics cur-



fine education Oxford, Cambridge, Harvard, Columbia and with careers on the BBC, the Guardian, the New York Times, the Washington Post.

These organizations are known as the liberal media. They present themselves as enlightened, progressive tribunes of the moral zeitgeist. They are anti racist, pro feminist and pro LGBT.

And they love war.

While they speak up for feminism, they support rapacious wars that deny the rights of countless women, including the right to life.

In 2011, Libya, then a modern state, was destroyed on the pretext that Muammar Gaddafi was about to commit genocide on his own people. That was the incessant news; and there was no evidence. It was a lie.

In fact, Britain, Europe and the United States wanted what they like to call "regime change" in Libya, the biggest oil producer in Africa. Gaddafi's influence in the continent and, above all, his independence were intolerable.

So he was murdered with a knife in his rear by fanatics, backed by America, Britain and France. Hillary Clinton cheered his gruesome death for the camera, declaring, "We came, we saw, he died!"

The destruction of Libya was a media triumph. As the war drums were beaten, Jonathan Freedland wrote in the Guardian: "Though the risks are very real, the case for intervention remains strong."

Intervention what a polite, benign, Guardian word, whose real meaning, for Libya, was death and destruction.

According to its own records, NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organization] launched 9,700 "strike sorties" against Libya, of which more than a third were aimed at civilian targets. They included missiles with uranium warheads. Look at the photo-

beyond advertising. His greatest success was his role in convincing the American public to join the slaughter of the First World War. The secret, he said, was "engineering the consent" of people in order to "control and regiment [them] according to our will without their knowing about it".

He described this as "the true ruling power in our society" and called it an "invisible government".

Today, the invisible government has never been more powerful and less understood. In my career as a journalist and film maker, I have never known propaganda to insinuate our lives and as it does now and to go unchallenged.

Imagine two cities. Both are under siege by the forces of the government of that country. Both cities are occupied by fanatics, who commit terrible atrocities, such as beheading people.

But there is a vital difference. In one siege, the government soldiers are described as liberators by Western reporters embedded with them, who

dressed up as news, the monstrous ISIS and Al Qaida and al Nusra and the rest of the jihadist gang might not exist, and the people of Syria might not be fighting for their lives today.

Some may remember in 2003 a succession of BBC reporters turning to the camera and telling us that Blair was "vindicated" for what turned out to be the crime of the century. The US television networks produced the same validation for George W. Bush. Fox News brought on Henry Kissinger to effuse over Colin Powell's fabrications.

The same year, soon after the invasion, I filmed an interview in Washington with Charles Lewis, the renowned American investigative journalist. I asked him, "What would have happened if the freest media in the world had seriously challenged what turned out to be crude propaganda?"

He replied that if journalists had done their job, "there is a very, very good chance we would not have gone to war in

surrender control of their country.

The same fate awaited Slobodan Milosevic once he had refused to sign an "agreement" that demanded the occupation of Serbia and its conversion to a market economy. His people were bombed, and he was prosecuted in The Hague. Independence of this kind is intolerable.

As WikLeaks has revealed, it was only when the Syrian leader Bashar al Assad in 2009 rejected an oil pipeline, running through his country from Qatar to Europe, that he was attacked.

From that moment, the CIA planned to destroy the government of Syria with jihadist fanatics the same fanatics currently holding the people of Mosul and eastern Aleppo hostage.

Why is this not news? The former British Foreign Office official Carne Ross, who was responsible for operating sanctions against Iraq, told me: "We would feed journalists factoids of sanitized intelligence, or we would freeze them out. That

ed States wanted what they like to call "regime change" in Libya, the biggest oil producer in Africa. Gaddafi's influence in the continent and, above all, his independence were intolerable.

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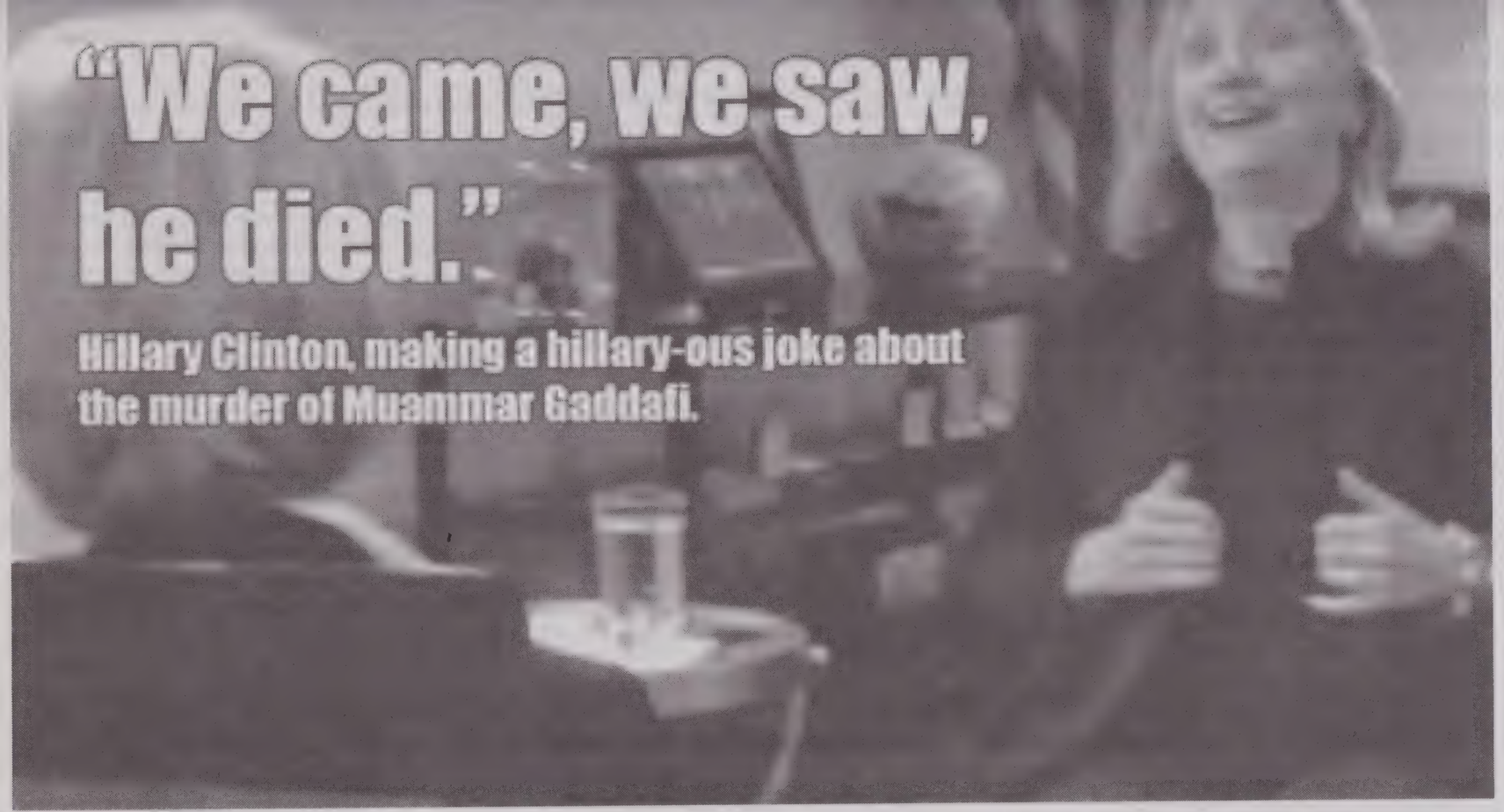
According to its own records, NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organization] launched 9,700 "strike sorties" against Libya, of which more than a third were aimed at civilian targets. They included missiles with uranium warheads. Look at the photographs of the rubble of Misurata and Sirte, and the mass graves identified by the Red Cross. The UNICEF report on the children killed says, "most [of them] under the age of ten".

As a direct consequence, Sirte became the capital of ISIS. Ukraine is another media triumph. Respectable liberal newspapers such as the New York Times, the Washington Post and the Guardian, and mainstream broadcasters such as the BBC, NBC, CBS, CNN have played a critical role in conditioning their viewers to accept a new and dangerous cold war.

All have misrepresented events in Ukraine as a malign act by Russia when, in fact, the coup in Ukraine in 2014 was the work of the United States, aided by Germany and NATO.

This inversion of reality is so pervasive that Washington's military intimidation of Russia is not news; it is suppressed behind a smear and scare campaign of the kind I grew up with during the first cold war. Once again, the Ruskies are coming to get us, led by another Stalin, whom The Economist depicts as the devil.

The suppression of the truth about Ukraine is one of the most complete news blackouts I can remember. The fascists who engineered the coup in Kiev are the same breed that backed the Nazi invasion of the Soviet Union in 1941. Of all the scares about the rise of fascist anti Semi-



siege by the forces of the government of that country. Both cities are occupied by fanatics, who commit terrible atrocities, such as beheading people.

But there is a vital difference. In one siege, the government soldiers are described as liberators by Western reporters embedded with them, who enthusiastically report their battles and air strikes. There are front page pictures of these heroic soldiers giving a V sign for victory. There is scant mention of civilian casualties.

In the second city in another country nearby almost exactly the same is happening. Government forces are laying siege to a city controlled by the same breed of fanatics.

The difference is that these fanatics are supported, supplied and armed by "us" by the United States and Britain. They even have a media centre that is funded by Britain and America.

Another difference is that the government soldiers laying siege to this city are

Charles Lewis, the renowned American investigative journalist. I asked him, "What would have happened if the freest media in the world had seriously challenged what turned out to be crude propaganda?"

He replied that if journalists had done their job, "there is a very, very good chance we would not have gone to war in Iraq".

It was a shocking statement, and one supported by other famous journalists to whom I put the same question – Dan Rather of CBS, David Rose of the Observer and journalists and producers in the BBC, who wished to remain anonymous.

In other words, had journalists done their job, had they challenged and investigated the propaganda instead of amplifying it, hundreds of thousands of men, women and children would be alive today, and there would be no ISIS and no siege of Aleppo or Mosul.

There would have been no atrocity on the London Underground on 7th July 2005. There would have been no flight of

rently holding the people of Mosul and eastern Aleppo hostage.

Why is this not news? The former British Foreign Office official Carne Ross, who was responsible for operating sanctions against Iraq, told me: "We would feed journalists factoids of sanitized intelligence, or we would freeze them out. That is how it worked."

The West's medieval client, Saudi Arabia to which the US and Britain sell billions of dollars' worth of arms is at present destroying Yemen, a country so poor that in the best of times, half the children are malnourished.

Look on YouTube and you will see the kind of massive bombs "our" bombs that the Saudis use against dirt poor villages, and against weddings, and funerals.

The explosions look like small atomic bombs. The bomb aimers in Saudi Arabia work side by side with British officers. This fact is not on the evening news.

Propaganda is most effective when our consent is engineered by those with a

ya, of which more than a third were aimed at civilian targets. They included missiles with uranium warheads. Look at the photographs of the rubble of Misurata and Sirte, and the mass graves identified by the Red Cross. The UNICEF report on the children killed says, "most [of them] under the age of ten".

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Many in the Western media have worked hard to present the ethnic Russian speaking population of Ukraine as outsiders in their own country, as agents of Moscow, almost never as Ukrainians seeking a federation within Ukraine and as Ukrainian citizens resisting a foreign orchestrated coup against their elected government.

There is almost the joie d'esprit of a class reunion of warmongers. The drum beaters of the Washington Post inciting war with Russia are the very same editorial

Continued On Page 22

THE PLOT TO KILL MARTIN LUTHER KING
Assassins and Conspiracy Exposed!

By Craig McKee (truthandshadows.wordpress.com)

The revelations are stunning. The media indifference is predictable.

Thanks to a nearly four decade investigation by human rights lawyer William Pepper, it is now clear once and for all that civil rights leader Martin Luther King was murdered on April 4, 1968 in a conspiracy instigated by FBI director J. Edgar Hoover that also involved the US military, the Memphis Police Department, and "Dixie Mafia" crime figures in Memphis, Tennessee.

These and many more incredible details of the King assassination are contained in a trilogy of volumes by Pepper, culminating with his latest and final book on the subject, **The Plot to Kill King**. [Pepper previously wrote **Orders to Kill** (1995) and **An Act of State** (2003)].

With virtually no help from the mainstream media and very little from the justice system, Pepper was able to piece together what really happened on April 4, 1968, right down to who gave the order and supplied the money, how the patsy was chosen, and who actually pulled the trigger.

Without this information, the truth about King's assassination would be buried and lost to history. Witnesses would have died off, taking their secrets with them, and the official lie that King was the victim of a racist lone gunman named James Earl Ray would have remained "fact."

Instead, we now know that Ray took the fall for a murder he did not commit. We now know that a member of the Memphis Police Department fired the fatal shot and that two sniper teams that were part of the 902nd Military Intelligence Group were sent to Memphis as back ups, should the primary shooter fail. We now have access to the fascinating account of how Pepper made contact with Colonel

***"For one bright moment back in the late 1960s, we actually believed that we could change our country. We had identified the enemy. We saw it up close, we had its measure, and we were very hopeful that we would prevail. The enemy was hollow where we had substance. All of that substance was destroyed by an assassin's bullet."* --William Pepper**

WILLIAM PEPPER AND MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. IN 1967

over his head. (Pepper's book contains the entire deposition given by Johnton Shelby, so readers can judge for themselves whether they think Shelby is credible, as Pepper believes he is.)

Another invaluable source is Ron Adkins, whose father, Russell Adkins Sr., was a local Dixie Mafia gangster and

Leadership Conference (SCLC) and that they had to leave immediately. When they asked who had given this order, they were told that it was Jesse Jackson. At the time of the shooting, Jackson was waiting downstairs by the swimming pool. Ron Adkins also identified Jackson as the person who called the owners of the Lorraine Motel and demanded that King be moved

the shot come from the bushes and not from the bathroom of the rooming house, as the official story states.

Another casualty of the King murder was cab driver Buddy Butler, who reported that he saw a man running from the scene right after the shot, going south on Mulberry Street, and jumping into a police car – this turned out to be MPD Lieutenant Earl Clark. Butler reported this to his dispatcher and later to fellow cab driver Louie Ward. Butler was interviewed at the Yellow Cab Company later that evening by police. The next day, Ward was told that Butler had either fallen, or was pushed, to his death from a speeding car on the Memphis Arkansas Bridge.

The owner of Jim's Grill, Loyd Jowers, later admitted to being part of the conspiracy to kill King and was found responsible – along with various government agencies – for the killing, in a 1999 civil lawsuit by the King family, which was represented by Pepper. "The King family got enormous comfort out of the results of that trial and the evidence that came forward from that," Pepper says.

Betty Spates, a waitress at Jim's Grill and girlfriend of Jowers, told Pepper that she saw him rush into the back of the Grill through the back door seconds after the shot, white as a ghost and holding a rifle, which he then wrapped in a tablecloth and hid on a shelf under the counter. He turned to her and said, "Betty, you wouldn't do anything to hurt me, would you?" She responded, "Of course not, Loyd." Spates, who didn't come forward until the 1990s, also recounted that Jowers had been delivered a large sum of money right before the assassination. James McCraw stated that Jowers had shown him a rifle the day after the shooting and told him it was the one used to kill King.

"We confronted Loyd," Pepper says.

should the primary shooter fail. We now have access to the fascinating account of how Pepper made contact with Colonel John Downie, president Lyndon Johnson's former Vietnam briefer, who was in charge of the military part of the King assassination plot.

The mainstream media has ignored all of these revelations and continues to label James Earl Ray as Martin Luther King's lone assassin. In his book, Pepper details a disinformation campaign that has included collaboration by mainstream journalists for almost half a century. "This book will probably never be reviewed seriously by mainstream, the story will not be aired in mainstream – they control the media. It was bad in the 1960s, but nowhere near as bad as now," Pepper says.

The most stunning revelation in The Plot to Kill King – which some may question because the account is second hand – is that King was still alive when he arrived at St. Joseph's Hospital after being shot in Memphis, and that he was killed by a doctor who was supposed to be trying to save his life. "That is probably the most shocking aspect of the book, that final revelation of how this great man was taken from us," Pepper says.

The hospital story was told to Pepper by Johnton Shelby, whose mother Lula Mae Shelby was a surgical aide at St. Joseph's on the night of the assassination. Shelby said his mother came home the morning after the shooting (she hadn't been allowed to go home the night before) and gathered the family together. He remembers her telling them, "I can't believe they took his life."

Mrs. Shelby described chief of surgery Dr. Breen Bland entering the emergency room with two men in suits. Seeing doctors working on King, Bland commanded, "Stop working on the nigger and let him die! Now, all of you get out of here, right now. Everybody get out."

Shelby says his mother described hearing the sound of the three men sucking up saliva into their mouths and then spitting. Mrs. Shelby told her family that she looked over her shoulder as she was leaving the room and saw that a breathing tube had been removed from King's throat and that Bland was holding a pillow

Another invaluable source is Ron Adkins, whose father, Russell Adkins Sr., was a local Dixie Mafia gangster and conspirator in the planning of the assassination, though he died a year before it took place. Adkins told Pepper that he overheard Dr. Bland, who was his family's doctor, tell his father that if King survived the shooting, he had to be taken to St. Joseph's and nowhere else. As Pepper describes it, "He remembers Breen Bland saying to his father, 'If he's not killed by the shot, just make sure he gets to St. Joseph Hospital, and we'll make sure that he doesn't leave.'"

Adkins, who was just 16 when King was killed, says he was taken everywhere by his father in those days, so he was able to recount many details of what happened as the assassination was planned and carried out. "I definitely found him credible," Pepper says. "I found him troubled, I found him disturbed in a lot of ways by things that went on earlier in his life." (Adkin's deposition is also contained in the book.)

Adkins also described to Pepper the many visits made to his father by Clyde Tolson, J. Edgar Hoover's right hand man. Known to Adkins as "Uncle Clyde," he says Tolson often delivered cash to the elder Adkins for jobs he and his associates would carry out on behalf of Hoover. Among the persons the younger Adkins said were paid to supply information about the activities of Martin Luther King were the Reverends Samuel "Billy" Kyles and Jesse Jackson.

Just before 6pm on April 4, Kyles knocked on the door of room 306 of the Lorraine Motel to let King and his party know that they were running late for a planned dinner at Kyles' home. Kyles then walked about 60 feet down the balcony, where he remained, even after King came out of the room at about 6pm. Though Kyles has maintained ever since that he spent the last half hour in the motel room, Pepper has shown otherwise.

According the book, members of a militant black organizing group, The Invaders, who were also staying in the motel due to King's visit, were told shortly before the shooting by a member of the motel staff that their rooms would no longer be paid for by the Southern Christian

downstairs by the swimming pool. Ron Adkins also identified Jackson as the person who called the owners of the Lorraine Motel and demanded that King be moved from a more secure inner courtyard room to an exposed room on the second floor facing the street.

The Memphis Police Department usually formed a detail of Black officers to protect King when he was in town, but did not on this occasion. Emergency TACT support units were pulled back from the Lorraine Motel to a fire station, which overlooked the motel. Pepper also learned that the only two Black members of the Memphis Fire Department were told the day before the shooting not to report for work the next day at the fire station. And, Black detective Ed Redditt was physically removed from his surveillance post in the fire station and taken to Memphis Police Department headquarters, where he described seeing many Army officers. He was then driven home, where he heard news about the assassination.

Just about a minute after King exited his room, a single shot was fired. The bullet ripped through King's jaw and spinal cord, dropping him immediately. The shot appeared to come from across Mulberry Street. King was rushed to the hospital, where he was pronounced dead just after 7pm.

According to the official story, the shot was fired by James Earl Ray from the bathroom of a rooming house above a bar called Jim's Grill, which backed onto Mulberry and faced South Main Street. But, as Pepper's investigation shows, the shot actually came from bushes located in between the rooming house and the street. The only "witness" who placed Ray at the scene was a drunk named Charles Stephens, who later did not recognize Ray in a photograph and who cab driver James McCraw refused to transport a short time before the shooting because Stephens was too intoxicated.

The bushes that concealed the shooter were trimmed the day after the shooting, giving the false impression that a shooter could not have been concealed there. Several witnesses, including journalist Earl Caldwell and King's Memphis driver Solomon Jones, described seeing

a rifle the day after the shooting and told him it was the one used to kill King.

"We confronted Loyd," Pepper says. "We told him he was likely to be indicted if he didn't help us, if he didn't give more information. Jowers didn't know there was no way the grand jury was going to indict him. All he knew was what he did, what he participated in, how much money he got for it – he got quite a large sum of money, built a taxi cab company with it, had his gambling debt with [local Mafia figure Frank] Liberto forgiven."

Liberto, an associate of Louisiana crime boss Carlos Marcello, was involved in the King assassination as well. He owned a produce warehouse and one of his regular customers, John McFerren, was making his weekly shopping trip there when he overheard Liberto shout into a phone an hour before the shooting: "Shoot the son of a bitch on the balcony." Nathan Whitlock, whose mother LaVada Addison Whitlock owned a restaurant frequented by Liberto, revealed to Pepper that Liberto told them he was responsible for the King murder.

SETTING UP THE PATSY

In 1967, the year before the King assassination, James Earl Ray was in prison, serving a 20 year sentence for a 1959 grocery store robbery. After a few unsuccessful attempts, Ray broke out of prison on April 23, 1967. Unknown to Ray was that his escape was orchestrated, as he had already been chosen as the patsy for the planned assassination of King.

According to Ron Adkins, the warden of Missouri State Penitentiary was paid $25,000 by Adkins Sr. to allow Ray's escape. Adkins says the money was delivered to Adkins Sr. by Clyde Tolson. It was this same connection that would later be used to finance the assassination of King.

After his escape, Ray went to Chicago, where he got a job. Worried about getting caught, Ray then fled to Montreal, Canada, taking the name of Eric S. Galt. His intention was to get a passport under a false name and travel to a country from which he could not be extradited.

At the Neptune Bar in the Montreal

Continued On Next Page

dock area in August 1967, Ray met a mysterious figure who identified himself as "Raul." Raul asked Ray to help him with a smuggling scheme, and Ray agreed. In the months ahead, Ray would do a number of jobs for Raul, including gun running, for which he was paid and given a car. Always, Ray had to wait to be contacted by Raul, who Ray said co ordinated his activities right up until the day of the assassination.

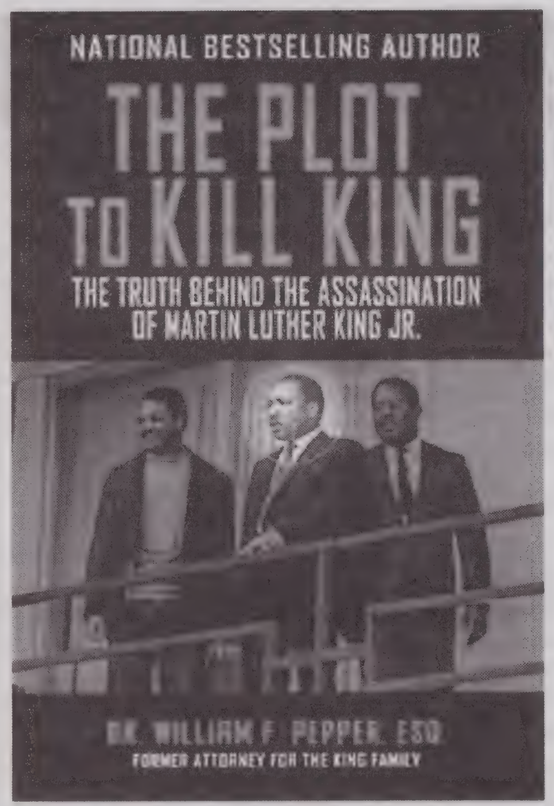
At one point, Ray was instructed to purchase a deer rifle with a scope – Raul was not satisfied with the one Ray bought and had him exchange it for another. Ray was instructed to go to Memphis, where he arrived on April 3. Upon meeting with Raul in his motel, Ray was told to meet him at Jim's Grill at 3pm the next day. Ray handed the rifle to Raul and always maintained that he never saw it again.

Ray rented a room at the rooming house above Jim's Grill – he met Raul on the day of the assassination as planned. About an hour before the shooting, Ray was given money to go to the movies, but first he tried to have a tire repaired because Raul had said he wanted to use the car. When Ray heard police sirens following the shooting, he got scared and left the area.

Fearing he had been set up, Ray left the country and ended up in England, where he was captured on June 8, 1968 at London's Heathrow Airport as he was trying to leave the UK. Charged with killing King, Ray was pressured by his second lawyer, Percy Foreman, to plead guilty on the grounds that the evidence against Ray was too strong and that Foreman was not in good health and couldn't mount a good defense. "Foreman was sent in with the purpose of replacing the original lawyers," Pepper says.

Foreman offered Ray $500 to get another lawyer if he pleaded guilty and even put the offer in writing. Ray would regret accepting this offer for the rest of his life. He tried unsuccessfully to rescind the guilty plea and get a trial for the next 30 years, finally dying in prison of cancer in 1998.

PEPPER BECOMES CONVINCED



fascinating story is recounted both in An Act of State and The Plot to Kill King.)

One of the most intriguing things to come out of both of these books is the account of a young FBI agent named Don Wilson, who, after the King assassination, was sent to check out a white Mustang with Alabama plates (Ray drove a white Mustang) that had been abandoned and that was thought to be connected with the assassination. Wilson opened the car door and some papers fell out. He examined them later and found a page torn from a 1963 Dallas, Texas telephone directory. Written on the page was the name "Raul" and the initial "J" and a phone number, which turned out to be that of a night club run by Jack Ruby, who shot and killed accused JFK assassin Lee Harvey Oswald in the basement of the Dallas police station two days after JFK was assassinated on November 22, 1963. A second piece of paper had a list of names with amounts of money beside each. Wilson decided to hold on to this evidence, fearing it would disappear forever if he turned it in. He kept it for 29 years before making it available to Pepper and the King family.

"How would you like that scoundrel, that baby there?" When Curtis said it looked like any other rifle, he replied, "No, this is a special one; that baby is special." Lenny remembered that on the day of the King assassination, Strausser spent the whole day practicing with it. (Strausser has given several conflicting accounts of where he was and what he was doing that day.)

In his book, Pepper describes how he came to meet with Strausser, whom he describes as a committed and devoted racist. In the hope of prompting an admission, Pepper lied and told him that he had been implicated in the King killing by Loyd Jowers – but Strausser didn't take the bait. Pepper also told Strausser that footprints found in the bushes after the shooting were from size 13 shoes, which they were. Pepper asked Strausser about the size of his feet: "He had a bit of a grin on his face, and he said '13 large,'" Pepper says.

Pepper also arranged to have cab driver Nathan Whitlock, whom Strausser knew, tell him that there was a good possibility that Strausser would be indicted for the shooting. Strausser responded: "What are they going to indict me for, something I did 30 years ago?" Then he caught himself and added, "Or something I knew about 30 years ago?"

A THREAT TO THE POWERS THAT BE

As Pepper explains, King was not only hated by the establishment as he rose to prominence in the 1960s, he was feared. Not only was King able to move large numbers of people with his message of peace and tolerance, he also had designs on a political career. According to Pepper, King was planning to run for president on a third party ticket with fellow anti war activist Dr. Benjamin Spock. King also caused panic in powerful circles because he intended to bring hundreds of thousands of people to an encampment in Washington, DC in the spring of 1968 to bring attention to the plight of the poor.

"They were terrified that the anger level when [the demonstrators] were not going to get what they wanted was going to rise to such a point where Martin was going to lose control of that group and the more radical among them would take it over and they'd have a revolution," Pepper explains. "And they didn't have the troops to put it down. That was a real fear that the Army had. And I think it was a justifiable fear."

King also posed a threat to the political establishment because he intended to become much more vocal in his opposition to the Vietnam War. He had been influenced by an article written by Pepper called "The Children of Vietnam," that was published in Ramparts Magazine in January 1967. The article was going to be reprinted in Look magazine until editor Bill Atwood had a heart attack and left the magazine. Atwood later told Pepper that he received a visit from former New York governor and ambassador to the Soviet Union, Averill Harriman, who passed on a message from President Johnson that he would appreciate it if Atwood never published anything by Pepper.

Beyond King's importance as a powerful force for justice, peace, and equality, he was also Pepper's friend. And the lawyer/journalist had to deal with that loss as he sought the truth about who really killed King and fought for justice for the man falsely accused of his murder.

Pepper writes: "For me, this is a story rife with sadness, replete with massive accounts of personal and public deception and betrayal. Its revelations and experiences have produced in the writer a depression stemming from an unavoidable confrontation with the depths to which human beings, even those subject to professional codes of ethics, have fallen. In addition, there is an element of personal despair that has resulted from this long effort, which has made me even question the wisdom of undertaking this task."

But Pepper did undertake the task, and we should all be grateful that he did.

in 1998.

PEPPER BECOMES CONVINCED OF RAY'S INNOCENCE

In his book, Pepper describes his first meeting with Ray in 1978, encouraged to meet him by Rev. Ralph Abernathy, who had succeeded King as President of the SCLC. Pepper came to believe that Ray had not been the shooter and that the case was still unsolved. By 1988, Pepper became certain that Ray had not played any knowing part in the conspiracy. At that point, Pepper agreed to represent him, which he did until Ray's death.

Though purveyors of the official story of the assassination have claimed that Raul was non-existent, Pepper not only found witnesses who described their connections to Raul, he actually found Raul himself with the help of witness Glenda Grabow (Pepper learned that Raul's last name was Coelho). Grabow identified Raul as someone she had known in Houston in 1963 and who, around 1974, in a fit of rage, had implicated himself in the King assassination right before raping her. Grabow also identified Jack Ruby as someone she saw with Raul in 1963. (This

disappear forever if he turned it in. He kept it for 29 years before making it available to Pepper and the King family.

THE SHOOTER REVEALED

Another incredible revelation in The Plot to Kill King is the identity of the man who appears to have fired the fatal shot. Pepper learned his identity from Lenny B. Curtis, a custodian at the Memphis Police Department rifle range. Curtis spoke with Pepper in 2003 – Pepper recorded a deposition with him, but kept it confidential out of fear for Curtis's life. Only after Curtis' death in 2013 did Pepper reveal what he had said – that the shooter was Memphis police officer Frank Strausser.

"We had to be very careful about [Curtis's safety]," Pepper says. Curtis told Pepper that he heard Strausser say about King four or five months before the assassination that somebody was going to ". . . blow his motherfucking brains out." He also said that Strausser practiced in the rifle range with a particular rifle that had been brought in four or five days earlier by a member of the fire department. That fireman showed the rifle to Curtis and asked,

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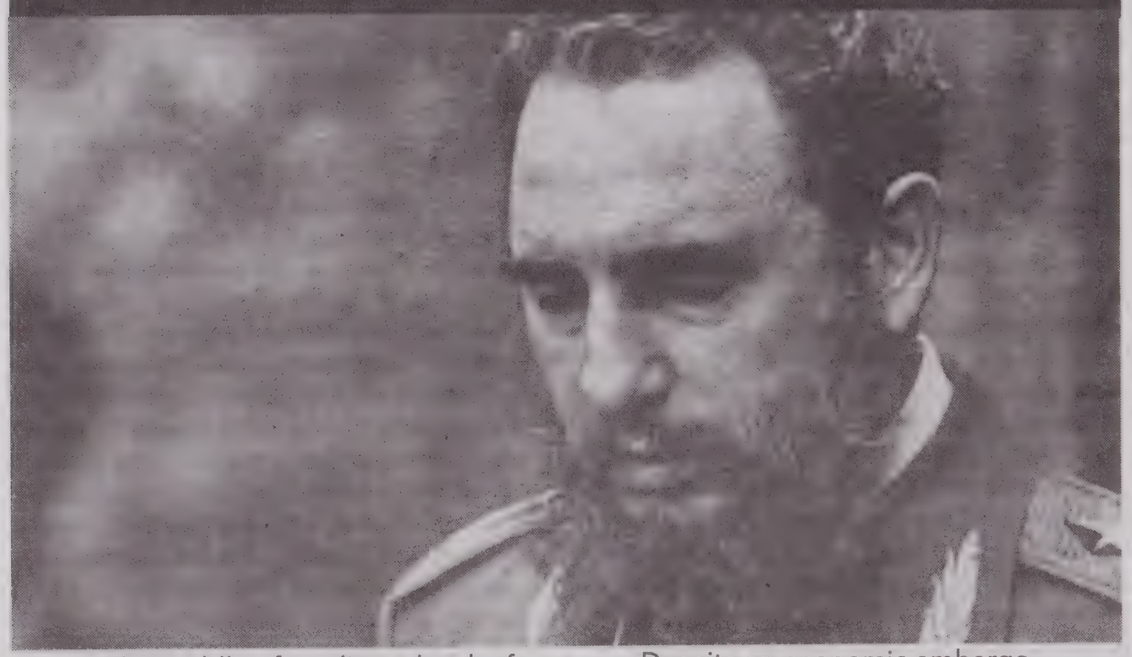
FIDEL CASTRO: 1926-2016



I was in the middle of reading a book of 1987 interviews with Cuban leader Fidel Castro ["An Encounter With Fidel", by Italian television journalist Gianni Mina, published in 1991], when I heard that Castro passed away on November 25. Now, in the immediate aftermath of his death, we are being bombarded with mainstream media mind-fuck propaganda that distorts Castro and his legacy and ignores historical truth.

Those who are too young to know or who are old enough to know but have forgotten or who cannot see through the revisionist history now being disseminated by the media, should consider the following: Castro and his fellow revolutionaries fought for years in the jungles of Cuba and beat an un-elected corrupt military regime headed by Fulgencio Batista that had seized power in 1952. Batista looted the economy, crushed dissent and ran Cuba for the pleasure of the CIA (drugs), Mafia (gambling + prostitution), wealthy land owners and United Fruit Company (stolen land). On January 7, 1959, six days after Batista fled Cuba for the Dominican Republic, Castro and his revolutionaries (men and women) marched triumphantly

Despite an economic embargo imposed against Cuba by the US for more than 50 years as punishment for Castro beating the US at its own game, the only thing the embargo accomplished was to hurt Cuban citizens and Cuba's economy, in the vague hope that Cubans would rise up against Castro. That ploy failed as well.

NO revolution is perfect – the Cuban revolution certainly was not and Castro had many faults. However, it is a remarkable fact that Cuba has provided FREE education and FREE medical care for its citizens and even foreigners.

I remember a scene from Michael Moore's documentary SICKO, in which September 11, 2001 responders, suffering the effects of the toxic shit they were exposed to after president Bush and his lackey, "environmental protection" agency head Christine Todd Whitman, announced that the World Trade Center area was "SAFE" after September 11, received better care from Cuban doctors than they received in the US. One male responder had been taking 16 medications that were making him sicker – the Cuban doctors determined that he had been over-medicated, informing him that he needed only

MARK LANE: 1927-2016

Attorney Mark Lane, radical social activist, research investigator and author, died on May 10 at his home in Virginia. Among many books and articles, Lane authored the highly influential 1966 book "Rush to Judgement", which concluded that accused assassin Lee Harvey Oswald was innocent in the killings of President John F. Kennedy and police officer J.D. Tippit on November 22, 1963.

For Lane, the Kennedy assassination was the pivotal moment in his life. Raising questions and embarking on determined investigation soon after the murder, Lane went on to investigate the April 4,1968 assassination of civil rights activist and Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. In 1977, with comedian and activist Dick Gregory, Lane authored a book "Murder in Memphis" (first released as "Code Name Zorro", the CIA's name for King), which posited FBI involvement in a conspiracy behind King's murder. In 1978, Lane represented accused King assassin James Earl Ray before the House Select Committee on Assassinations, which said: "Many

as President, under the banner of the Peace and Freedom Party, amassing some 50,000 votes. While working with Vietnam Veterans Against the War in 1970, Lane met and became friends with actress and activist Jane Fonda, subsequently appearing with her on "The Dick Cavett Show". In 1974, Lane represented the American Indian Movement [AIM], joining activist attorney William M. Kunstler in successfully defending AIM members Russell C. Means and Dennis J. Banks against federal charges of conspiracy, assault and larceny stemming from the 1973 Native American occupation of the Pine Ridge reservation at Wounded Knee, South Dakota – a 71 day standoff between Natives, federal marshals and FBI agents.

As a member of the Assassination Information Bureau [founded in 1972 by SDS organizer Carl Oglesby-Ed.] here in NYC, I met Lane in 1975 or thereabouts. We had organized an event at what was then the Elgin Theatre on Eighth Avenue at 19th Street, on the subject of the JFK assassination. The panel included Mark

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Castro AND Batista received CIA bucks to fight each other, with the US expecting to be repaid with gratitude by the winner, but, while Castro took the money and other support, he was no fool. He KNEW Amerikan history in Cuba since the island was taken by the US from Spain in 1898 [the "Spanish-American War"].

Once Castro made known his intention to enact reforms, including redistribution of land, closing down the Mafia's casinos - he even held some Mafia chiefs for ransom! - and nationalizing resources controlled by foreign corporations, almost immediately, the CIA-Mafia-US military conspired to take him out. This forced Castro to get protection from the USSR [Union of Soviet Socialist Republics -- the former Russian-dominated Soviet Union]. Castro was then labeled a COMMUNIST!! From there, it was open season on Castro and Cuba.

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With Castro dead and gone, the next invasion of Cuba will consist of corporate raiders and vulture capitalists, keen on exploiting Cuba's resources, as well as banksters who will try to get Cuba indebted to them, using Cuba's fertile land and oil reserves recently discovered off the coast as collateral. Some vultures will seek return of land nationalized by Castro. Some vultures will try to restore the casinos. Some vultures will want to "develop" the island, not for the benefit of Cubans, but for tourists, vacationers and the monied class, bringing Cuba right back to where it was before 1959.

For the sake of the integrity of Cuba and its inhabitants, we hope that Cubans

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MARK LANE AND JOHN F. KENNEDY DURING KENNEDY'S 1960 PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN

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If we are ever able to recover from the political assassinations of the 1960s and foster the kind of revolution of truth that Lane stood for, it will be in part due to his legacy.

May he rest in Peace!

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Despite countless assassination attempts, sabotage, military invasions and provocations by the US, Castro survived 11 Amerikan presidential administrations. And, unlike any US president, Castro walked freely among his people.

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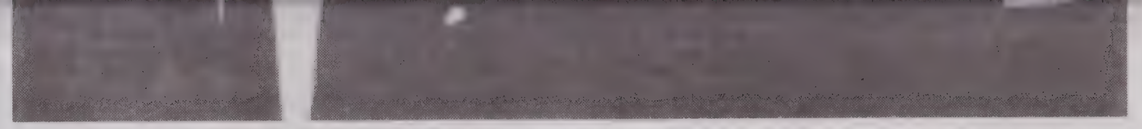
For the sake of the integrity of Cuba and its inhabitants, we hope that Cubans will stand up for and adhere to their revolutionary values and not be tempted by the lure of the evil empire just 90 miles north.

-- Chris Flash

ONE OF THE FIRST PEOPLE VISITED BY ANC LEADER NELSON MANDELA WHEN HE WAS RELEASED FROM PRISON IN 1989, AFTER 26 YEARS, WAS FIDEL CASTRO, WHO PROVIDED SUPPORT FOR MANDELA'S REVOLUTIONARY MOVEMENT IN SOUTH AFRICA



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After Kennedy's murder by the CIA, militarist and corporate elements, Lane devoted much of the next four decades researching the assassination, effectively exposing the lie of the official "lone gunman" story. He organized the Citizens' Committee of Inquiry, interviewed witnesses, collected evidence and delivered speeches in the United States and in Europe.

In the 1960s, Lane worked with New Orleans district attorney Jim Garrison, who launched a heroic investigation into the murder, much of which was later set down in Garrison's book "On the Trail of the Assassins", which would later become the basis of director Oliver Stone's 1991 film "JFK".

In 1968, Lane joined with Dick Gregory and ran for vice-President, with Gregory Lane, Dick Gregory, Robert Grodin and Mae Brussell. It was at that conference that I came to realize that things are not what they seem and that the "deep history" that Mark Lane and others like him made, and are still making, plain, is in fact the real and sordid history of this fading Republic. Lane's next- to-final book "Last Word: My Indictment of the CIA in the Murder of JFK" sums up his more than four decades of research and investigation into this history.

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- Frank Morales

[Books by Mark Lane: Rush to Judgment (Holt, Rinehart and Winston,1966; Second Edition: Thunder's Mouth Press, 1992) - A Citizen's Dissent: Mark Lane Replies to the Defenders of the Warren Report. (Holt, Rinehart and Winston, 1968) - Chicago Eyewitness (Astor Honor 1968; Arcadia. Holt, Rinehart and Winston, 1970) - Conversations with Americans: Testimony from 32 Vietnam Veterans (Simon & Schuster, 1970) - Code Name Zorro (Pocket, 1978) (with Dick Gregory); Reissued as: Murder in Memphis: The FBI and the Assassination of Martin Luther King (Thunder's Mouth Press,1993) - The Strongest Poison (Hawthorne Books,1980) - Plausible Denial: Was the CIA Involved in the Assassination of JFK? (Thunder's Mouth Press, 1991) - Last Word: My Indictment of the CIA in the Murder of JFK (Skyhorse Publishing, 2011) - Citizen Lane: Defending our Rights in the Courts, the Capitol, and the Streets, (Laurence Hill Books, 2012)]

REMEMBERING LENNY BRUCE

By Paul Krassner

[What follows appeared in the L.A. Times, which heavily trimmed and censored it. The full, unexpurgated version appears here--Ed.]

August 3rd marks the 50th anniversary of controversial comedian Lenny Bruce's death from an overdose of morphine, while his New York obscenity conviction at Café Au Go Go was still on appeal, and on this same day, he received a foreclosure notice at his Los Angeles home.

But it wasn't suicide. In the kitchen of his home, there was a bowl of soup with a spoon in it, and a half-eaten sandwich on the table. He was found in the bathroom, sitting on the toilet, his head resting on the bathtub. He had been working on his autobiography, *How to Talk Dirty and Influence People*, and he had been writing letters to the parole board, pleading for the reinstatement of his cabaret card, which had been revoked in 1961 after he had used the word "cocksucker" in a performance at Carnegie Hall.

Lenny was writing letters to the governor, to the attorney general, to the mayor, to the district attorney, to the judges, to the parole board, to the police commissioner, to the chief of detectives, to the vice squad, to the narcotics squad, to the chief of the bureau of criminal identification, to the chief of the bureau of criminal information, to the chief of the bureau of criminal investigation, to the chief of the bureau of criminal statistics, to the chief of the bureau of criminal records, to the chief of the bureau of criminal apprehension, to the chief of the bureau of criminal prosecution, to the chief of the bureau of criminal defense, to the chief of the bureau of criminal rehabilitation, to the chief of the bureau of criminal reformation, to the chief of the bureau of criminal deterrence, to the chief of the bureau of criminal punishment, to the chief of the bureau of criminal justice, to the chief of the bureau of criminal law, to the chief of the bureau of criminal courts, to the chief of the bureau of criminal trials, to the chief of the bureau of criminal appeals, to the chief of the bureau of criminal pardons, to the chief of the bureau of criminal paroles, to the chief of the bureau of criminal probation, to the chief of the bureau of criminal corrections, to the chief of the bureau of criminal detention, to the chief of the bureau of criminal incarceration, to the chief of the bureau of criminal execution, to the chief of the bureau of criminal burial, to the chief of the bureau of criminal resurrection, to the chief of the bureau of criminal immortality, to the chief of the bureau of criminal eternity, to the chief of the bureau of criminal infinity, to the chief of the bureau of criminal nothingness, to the chief of the bureau of criminal everything, to the chief of the bureau of criminal anything, to the chief of the bureau of criminal something, to the chief of the bureau of criminal nothing

Au Go Go was still on appeal, and on this same day, he received a foreclosure notice at his Los Angeles home.

But it wasn't suicide. In the kitchen, a kettle of water was still boiling, and in his office, the electric typewriter was still humming. He had stopped typing in mid-word: "Conspiracy to interfere with the 4th Amendment const"--constitutes what?

Lenny was a subscriber to my satirical magazine, The Realist, and in 1959, we met for the first time at the funky Hotel America in Times Square. He was amazed that I got away with publishing those profane words for which other periodicals used asterisks or dashes. He had been using euphemisms like frig and asked, "Are you telling me this is legal to sell on the newsstands?"

I replied, "The Supreme Court's definition of obscenity is that it has to be material which appeals to your prurient interest." He magically produced an unabridged dictionary from the suitcase on his bed, and looked up the word prurient. He closed the dictionary, clenching his jaw and nodding his head in affirmation of a new discovery. "So," he observed, "it's against the law to get you horny."

When we were about to leave the room, he stood in the doorway. "Did you steal anything?" he asked furtively. I took my watch out of my pocket since I didn't like to wear it on my wrist, and without saying a word I placed it on the bureau. Lenny laughed one loud staccato "Ha!" and kissed me on the forehead.

We developed a friendship integrated with stand-up comedy. Lenny had broken through traditional stereotypical jokes about airplane food, nagging wives, Chinese drivers, mothers-in-law. Instead, he weaved his taboo-breaking targets--teachers' low salaries vs. show-business celebs, religious leaders' hypocrisy, cruel abortion laws, racial injustice, the double standard between illegal and prescription drugs--into stream-of-consciousness vignettes.

In each succeeding performance, he would sculpt and re-sculpt his concept into a theatrical context, experimenting from show to show like a jazz-jargon musician. Audience laughter would turn into clapping for the creative process itself. "Please Eichmann--pleading for compassion to spare her husband's life.

Lenny was writing an autobiography--How to Talk Dirty and Influence People--which Playboy planned to serialize, then publish as a book, and Hugh Hefner hired me as his editor. We met in Atlantic City. At a certain point he was acting paranoid and demanded that I take a lie-detector test. I was paranoid enough to take him literally.

I couldn't work with him if he didn't trust me. We got into an argument, and I left. He sent a telegram that sounded like we were on the verge of divorce--WHY CAN'T IT BE THE WAY IT USED TO BE? I agreed to try again, and in 1962 I flew to Chicago. Lenny was performing at the Gate of Horn. He was asking the whole audience to take a lie-detector test.

With a German accent, he asked, "Do you people think yourselves better because you burned your enemies at long distance with missiles without ever seeing what you had done to them? Hiroshima auf Wiedersehen. [German accent ends.]

"If we would have lost the war, they would have strung Truman up by the balls, Jim. Are you kidding with that? Not what kid told kid told kid. They would just schlep out all those Japanese mutants. 'Here they did; there they are.' And Truman said they'd do it again. That's what they should have the same day as Remember Pearl Harbor. Play them in unison."

Lenny was arrested for obscenity that night. One of the items in the Chicago police report complained: "Then talking about the war he stated, 'If we would have lost the war, they would have strung Truman up by the balls.'" The cops also broke open Lenny's candy bars, looking for drugs. And the club's liquor license was suspended.

They checked the IDs of audience members, including George Carlin, who told the cops, "I don't believe in IDs." Then they arrested him for disorderly conduct, dragged him along by the seat of his pants and hoisted him into the police wagon.

"What are you doing here?" Lenny asked.

"I didn't want to show them my ID."

"You schmuck."

house was protected by barbed wire and a concrete gate, except that it was always open. He had a wall-to-wall one-way mirror in his living room, but when the sun was shining you could see into the room instead of out. He was occasionally hassled by police on his own property. One evening in October 1963, we were talking while he was shaving, when four officers suddenly appeared, loud and obnoxious. He asked them to leave unless they had a search warrant. One of the cops took out his gun. "Here's my search warrant," he said. Then Lenny and the cops had a

working on the bust of the government of New York State." He included his doodle of Christ nailed to a crucifix, with a speech balloon asking, "Where the hell is the ACLU?"

At a séance, Lenny's mother brought his old faded denim jacket. That large safety-pin was still attached to it. And at the funeral, his sound-engineer friend dropped Lenny's microphone into his grave before the dirt was piled on. Lenny's problem had been that he wanted to talk on stage with the same freedom that he had in his living room. That problem doesn't happen to stand-up comedians anymore.

URBAN REMOVAL

Continued From Page 8

However, the actual human cast of characters leaves the ethnic divide less clear cut.

Anthropologist Joan A. Turner, in her 1984 Ph.D. Thesis (Building Boundaries: The Politics of Urban Renewal in Manhattan's Lower East Side), tabulated the population of the SPURA site at the time of its demolition as: 966 Puerto Rican families, 762 white families, 193 African-American families, and 178 Chinese families. As the make up of the neighborhood had been overwhelmingly Jewish prior to the 1950s, it is highly likely that many of the families described as "white" by census takers would have been Jewish. Furthermore, many of the activist opponents of slum clearance, including the legendary activist Jane Jacobs, nemesis of Robert Moses, were also Jewish. Every battle over real estate in NYC and particularly, on the Lower East Side, tends to have Jews on both sides of the battle lines. The reason is that Jews, along with Blacks, Puerto Ricans, Asians, and Italians, were then and continue to be a mainstay of the city's diverse citizenry.

ENTER SHELDON SILVER

The fate of the Seward Park site was sealed by the election of Sheldon Silver to the New York State Assembly in 1976. **[See SHADOW #57 for more on Sheldon Silver -- Ed]**.

Silver is a native of the Lower East Side, the son of a hardware dealer on Henry Street, a few blocks from Seward Park and the eventual SPURA site. Silver started his political career as a lawyer for the United Jewish Council of the Lower East Side [UJC], a group dedicated to maintaining the Jewish character of the Grand Street/Henry Street/Seward Park area, where Jews had been declining in numbers for decades, mostly as a result of upward mobility, with younger Jewish people seeking better housing in Brooklyn and the suburbs.

Silver and the UJC wanted to fend off increasing numbers of Puerto Ricans these conditions would be met if 97.6% of the residents of any buildings built there were white/Jewish, as that was the composition of the abutting Cooperative Village. Advocates for the Hispanic and Chinese community, now including the Lower East Side Joint Planning Council, which had been founded to curb Robert Moses' rapacious plans for demolishing even more tenement buildings throughout the Lower East Side and East Village, argued that the ethnic composition of the surrounding area needed to be calculated based on those who had been evicted from the site in 1967, most of whom were Black, Hispanic and Asian.

The revision of the New York City charter in 1975 gave considerable power over land use decisions to local Community Boards. Silver and the UJC moved quickly to colonize Community Boards 2 and 3, which made them key players in determining the ultimate fate of the vacant Seward Park blocks. Silver's publicly- stated position was that any development in the SPURA site had to be achieved by consensus among all of the diverse communities that make up the Lower East Side. Although superficially a reasonable statement, coming from Silver this was a conversation

construction of a 3,000 unit project that had been proposed by former mayor John Lindsay, Koch stood on a podium alongside openly racist activist Jerry Burbach and gave an incendiary speech opposing the projects. Silver and Rapfogel escorted Koch around the Lower East Side during his mayoral campaign and introduced him to key rabbis who helped him win the Jewish vote in the area.

During the Koch administration, things worked out particularly well for Rapfogel, who was appointed as liaison to the Jewish community for City Comptroller Harrison J. Goldin, where he would have access to the inside track regarding land use. Rapfogel made no effort to sound cosmopolitan or unbiased in his role as adviser to the comptroller, publicly stating that the mission of the UJC was to "retain the distinctly Jewish religious and cultural identity of our community."

In 1977, the Chinatown Planning Council received a $6.5 million grant from the federal government to build about 150 units of housing for senior citizens in the vicinity of Chinatown. The Department of Housing Preservation and Development [HPD] suggested the SPURA site. The idea was to include senior housing with the be biased in favor of Jews and that the displaced low income residents would not be able to afford to live there, against the UJC and Rapfogel, who thought that the LeFrak buildings would bring too many non Jews into the area.

Silver and Rapfogel continued to push for a development that did not include any housing. Through the 1990's and beyond, they advocated for the construction of a Costco big box store on the site, and brought Bruce Ratner, the future developer of Brooklyn's Atlantic Yards project, on board. William Rapfogel's son Michael was then hired by Ratner's company, Forest City Ratner.

The UJC's plans and William Rapfogel's career were scuttled after he was arrested in 2013 for stealing $5 million from his organization, the Metropolitan Council on Jewish Poverty, by conspiring with executives at the agency's insurance company to inflate premiums and split the overcharged amount with him. Several million dollars from the kickbacks were funneled to various politicians, including Silver. Mayor Bill de Blasio was compelled to return a $1,650 contribution that Rapfogel made to his Public Advocate campaign. Rapfogel was ultimately convicted of grand larceny and sentenced to three and one third to ten years in prison and ordered to pay $3 million in restitution.

Sheldon Silver was arrested in 2014 and charged with using his influence in Albany to benefit two law firms with which he was affiliated at the same time that he was Speaker of the Assembly. He was convicted at the end of 2014, expelled from the Assembly, sentenced to twelve years in prison and ordered to pay more than $5 million in restitution.

EXIT SILVER, ENTER THE REAL PLAYERS

In October 2012, the New York City Council approved plans for the Essex Crossing project. Site control over the SPURA site was transferred to Taconic Investment Partners, L+M Development Partners, and BFC Partners in September 2013, just around the time that the Feds were closing in on Silver.

it is highly likely that many of the families described as "white" by census takers would have been Jewish. Furthermore, many of the activist opponents of slum clearance, including the legendary activist Jane Jacobs, nemesis of Robert Moses, were also Jewish. Every battle over real estate in NYC and particularly, on the Lower East Side, tends to have Jews on both sides of the battle lines. The reason is that Jews, along with Blacks, Puerto Ricans, Asians, and Italians, were then and continue to be a mainstay of the city's diverse citizenry.

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Silver and the UJC wanted to fend off increasing numbers of Puerto Ricans who made up the majority of tenants in low income projects nearby, as well as the steady expansion of adjacent Chinatown, with Chinese immigrants taking over many tenement apartments left empty by departing Jews.

The UJC was founded by Hyman Rapfogel, like Silver's father, a local businessman. Silver developed a close relationship with Hyman's son William E. Rapfogel, who took over as chairman of the UJC and was soon to become the CEO of the Metropolitan Council on Jewish Poverty, a housing and social work organization which became active in presenting proposals on what to do with the SPURA site. Rapfogel's wife Judy became Silver's chief of staff.

In spite of promises by city officials that residents displaced from the SPURA site would receive housing that was better than the alleged "slum" housing from

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WILLIAM RAPFOGEL AND SHELDON SILVER IN HAPPIER TIMES

stopper, since he and the UJC opposed any low income housing development on the site, while the Joint Planning Council, as well as Hispanic and Asian activists, insisted on housing for the income range of the people who had been kicked out.

Silver and Rapfogel walked a fine line crafting arguments to advance their essentially racist goals without sounding racist. They claimed that the neighborhood was "saturated" with low income housing and that the middle class Jewish co-op resi-

"international mall" project that Silver and Rapfogel were backing, but on a different lot. Silver and Rapfogel reacted in horror to even this small bone being thrown to elderly Asian people, which they regarded as a foot in the door for low income housing. Although they did not receive the full support of Koch in their brave struggle against the senior citizens, they succeeded in getting City Council President Andrew Stein to amend the Council resolution that was being debated in order to eliminate

The UJC's plans and William Rapfogel's career were scuttled after he was arrested in 2013 for stealing $5 million from his organization, the Metropolitan Council on Jewish Poverty, by conspiring with executives at the agency's insurance company to inflate premiums and split the overcharged amount with him. Several million dollars from the kickbacks were funneled to various politicians, including Silver. Mayor Bill de Blasio was compelled to return a $1,650 contribution that Rapfogel made to his Public Advocate campaign. Rapfogel was ultimately convicted of grand larceny and sentenced to three and one third to ten years in prison and ordered to pay $3 million in restitution.

Sheldon Silver was arrested in 2014 and charged with using his influence in Albany to benefit two law firms with which he was affiliated at the same time that he was Speaker of the Assembly. He was convicted at the end of 2014, expelled from the Assembly, sentenced to twelve years in prison and ordered to pay more than $5 million in restitution.

EXIT SILVER, ENTER THE REAL PLAYERS

In October 2012, the New York City Council approved plans for the Essex Crossing project. Site control over the SPURA site was transferred to Taconic Investment Partners, L+M Development Partners, and BFC Partners in September 2013, just around the time that the Feds were closing in on Silver.

Sheldon Silver's downfall coincided eerily with the transfer of the SPURA site to these developers who would determine its ultimate fate. From the standpoint of New York's permanent government of big real estate, Silver was just a worn out tool who had outlived his usefulness and could be relegated to the scrap heap of crooked politicians.

Essex Crossing is essentially the handiwork of Mayor Michael Bloomberg and members of the local Community Boards who have had a long relationship with developers vying to transform the Lower East Side. The most notable player in this is Donald Capoccia, Managing Principal of BFC Partners. A blurb on the BFC Partners company website describes him thusly: "Capoccia spearheads the firm's focus on constructing affordable housing in emerging neighborhoods. Under

and the suburbs.

Silver and the UJC wanted to fend off increasing numbers of Puerto Ricans who made up the majority of tenants in low income projects nearby, as well as the steady expansion of adjacent Chinatown, with Chinese immigrants taking over many tenement apartments left empty by departing Jews.

The UJC was founded by Hyman Rapfogel, like Silver's father, a local businessman. Silver developed a close relationship with Hyman's son William E. Rapfogel, who took over as chairman of the UJC and was soon to become the CEO of the Metropolitan Council on Jewish Poverty, a housing and social work organization which became active in presenting proposals on what to do with the SPURA site. Rapfogel's wife Judy became Silver's chief of staff.

In spite of promises by city officials that residents displaced from the SPURA site would receive housing that was better than the alleged "slum" housing from which they had been evicted, the first and only housing structure to be built on the SPURA site until ground was broken for Essex Crossing project in 2014 was the UJC complex on Attorney Street. Apartments there were leased out in record time. Eighty-five percent of the new tenants were white and Jewish. No one who had lived in any of the demolished buildings on the SPURA received an apartment.

Jewish community leaders in the area made it clear that they were not going to allow low income housing on the site because this would threaten property values of the co ops and would make the area more dangerous. These contentions were dubious, as co-op residents were not allowed to sell their apartments at a profit and the desolation of the de populated SPURA area made it the most dangerous part of the neighborhood. However, nobody has ever contended that racism is rational.

A court battle began over the demographic composition of whatever was to be built on the site. The New York State Appeals court ruled that the ethnic composition of the SPURA site needed to match that of the surrounding area. This ruling effectively muddied the waters even further, as the UJC continued to argue that

WILLIAM RAPFOGEL AND SHELDON SILVER IN HAPPIER TIMES

stopper, since he and the UJC opposed any low income housing development on the site, while the Joint Planning Council, as well as Hispanic and Asian activists, insisted on housing for the income range of the people who had been kicked out.

Silver and Rapfogel walked a fine line crafting arguments to advance their essentially racist goals without sounding racist. They claimed that the neighborhood was "saturated" with low income housing and that the middle class Jewish co-op residents were "victims" being made to bear the brunt of social experimentation. Mostly what they did was to suggest projects for the site that did not include any housing, coming to the city with proposals from developers who all, embarrassingly, had Jewish surnames.

Silver and Rapfogel's first proposal for building on the SPURA site was for a so called "international mall", at times also described as a "mini shopping center", consisting of a massive low slung building resembling an airplane hanger that included no residential housing. In a series of private meetings with members of Mayor Abraham Beame's administration, Silver and the UJC proposed Howard Blitman as the developer. Once word of the project got out, massive opposition from low-income housing activists caused it to be shelved.

Silver and Rapfogel found a kindred spirit at City Hall with the election of Edward I. Koch as mayor in 1977. Koch's campaign was based on appeals to white homeowners throughout the city who felt their property values threatened by the spread of low income housing projects. In Forest Hills, Queens, where white, mostly Jewish residents were protesting the "international mall" project that Silver and Rapfogel were backing, but on a different lot. Silver and Rapfogel reacted in horror to even this small bone being thrown to elderly Asian people, which they regarded as a foot in the door for low income housing. Although they did not receive the full support of Koch in their brave struggle against the senior citizens, they succeeded in getting City Council President Andrew Stein to amend the Council resolution that was being debated in order to eliminate the senior housing on the grounds that combining economic development and low income housing was "ludicrous."

Silver and Rapfogel's cause was aided by the president Ronald Reagan's near freeze on the construction of new public housing. Rapfogel became even more strident about his intentions for the Seward Park site, stating in 1985 that "city government must never again believe that it will force more low income housing on a community that has been made into a poverty ghetto."

It was at this time that "gentrification" was becoming a household word in New York, and it was clear that the intention of politicians like Silver and Koch was to turn the SPURA site over to their developer cronies with huge tax breaks and build something that would bring "a better class of people" to the Lower East Side. After a long series of private talks between Silver, Rapfogel, and representatives of the Koch administration, a new proposal was floated for a middle income private development under the aegis of Sam LeFrak, who would go on to be the developer of Battery Park City. Debate over the LeFrak project pitted the Joint Planning Council, whose members contended that the project would still

Partners in September 2013, just around the time that the Feds were closing in on Silver.

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Capoccia was referring to his acquisitions of city-owned lots that had been lovingly converted into community gardens by neighbors and his role in developing formerly abandoned city-owned buildings that had been reclaimed and occupied by squatters and homesteaders who renovated their buildings at no cost to the city.

Capoccia's chief partner in crime in those days was right wing poverty pimp, Community Board 3 member, and later City Councilmember Antonio Pagán, a Puerto Rican aspiring politician, sponsored and put into office with the help of none other than Sheldon Silver. Pagàn was elected to the City Council as representative of a district that had been carefully gerry-mandered to dilute Puerto Rican and Asian communities as Orthodox Jews

Continued On Next Page

voted for Pagán on Silver's recommendation. Silver himself was a major force behind this redistricting.

Under Pagán's pro real estate leadership, numerous city-owned buildings were evicted, including five squats on East 13th Street, between Avenues A and B. Site control was handed over to Pagàn's "housing" group while Capoccia and other developers handled development into high end rentals with "affordable components" that made some apartments available at lower rents for limited amounts of time. This technically satisfied CB3's plans for "cross subsidy" affordable housing, though the number of affordable apartments was minuscule and many of them have reverted to market rate by now.

Essex Crossing also features a type of cross subsidy affordable housing component, with 500 of its 1,000 apartments reserved for "low , moderate , and middle income" applicants. These categories are not defined on the project's website, but moderate income has been traditionally defined for housing in the $50,000/year range for a family of three, and middle income in the $80,000 range.

With Goldman Sachs providing 80% of the capital for the project, BFC Partners and the other developers are risking very little of their own money and are guaranteed to make out like bandits. Poor Shelly Silver who set all of this up received a jail sentence and, as far as we know, will gain nothing from this sweet deal. (Donald Capoccia really ought to send him a cake with a hacksaw in it.)

A LEGACY OF JAILBIRDS

The good news is that Sheldon Silver and William Rapfogel were finally convicted and removed from their positions of power after decades of kleptocratic misrule. The bad news is that they did not go to jail for the genuine evils they inflicted on the Lower East Side–destruction of housing stock and contributing to the homeless crisis. From their jail cells, these two men can observe that their 40 years of stalling and pettifogging have handed New York real estate developers and financiers a bigger success than either of them had ever anticipated.

After all, if they intended to build anything on that site at all, it would have been just a bargain store or some co ops for middle class Jewish people–what is now being built there is the biggest yuppie development in the history of the Lower East Side.

UPDATES:

• Though he was sentenced to 12 years in jail in 2015, Sheldon Silver remains free while appealing his conviction.

• Though he was sentenced to 3 1/3 - 10 years in jail in 2014, and isn't eligible for parole until 2017, since May 2016, as part of a special work release program, William Rapfogel spends Wednesday through Sunday nights at home with his wife, former Silver "Chief of Staff" Judy Rapfogel. After "work", he spends Monday and Tuesday nights at the Lincoln Correctional Facility in Manhattan.

• In April 2016, Judy Rapfogel began working as a "property manager" for Kushner Companies, a real estate firm headed by president-elect Donald Trump's son-in-law and "advisor" Jared Kushner. A company spokeswoman has no comment on the hiring or what exactly Rapfogel does. Kushner Companies was founded by Charles Kushner, who spent 14 months in federal prison after being convicted in 2005 of tax evasion and election fraud. Judy Rapfogel filed for retirement in January 2016, weeks after Sheldon Silver, for whom she worked since 1976, was convicted. In addition to her pay from Kushner Companies, she also receives a $115,889 yearly taxpayer funded state pension.

ANGELA BOCAGE

and pettifogging have handed New York

state pension.

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BOB McGLYNN

Continued From Page 3

Love & Rage and Profane Existence.

From the 1980s and into the 1990s, NENW shared an office at the famous (and recently closed) "Peace Pentagon" at 339 Lafayette St, run by the pacifist War Resisters' League and its affiliated AJ Muste Foundation. The other groups in the narrow little office (whose membership largely overlapped with NENW) were the anarcho syndicalist Workers' Solidarity Alliance and the Libertarian Book Club. Bob put in countless hours stuffing envelopes there.

The Cold War came to an end, but NENW remained active for several more years, especially doing support work for anti war activists in all the ex Yugoslav republics. Bob was also involved in support work in this period for persecuted members of Nigeria's anarchist oriented Awareness League.

Although mostly masked by pseudonyms, Bob's persona was an animating force in the 1980s zine scene. With Hendrickson, he was one of a group known as the Marginals that produced the ultra irreverent political humor zine Shoe Polish Week. Bob often wrote under the by line of his nihilist alter ego,"Joey Homicides."

In the late 1990s, Bob retreated from Brooklyn to his childhood home of Yonkers and withdrew from the activist scene to deal with health problems. He had long been on pain killers after throwing out his back as a messenger. Accustomed to an extremely active lifestyle, accommodating to physical limitations also posed psychological challenges for him.

However, Bob had recently begun to emerge from his period of withdrawal. He wrote a brief political memoir of NENW, which appeared in the Spring/Summer 2014 edition of Fifth Estate. In February 2015, a NENW reunion party was held in Manhattan, and Bob spoke enthusiastically of reviving the group in light of the war in Ukraine and renewed US Russian rivalry. The group later that year issued its first public statement in years - in support of Syria's revolutionary Kurds.

Bob McGlynn, who is survived by his longtime partner Joanna, will be remembered for his boundless love of freedom, his ruthless single standard politics, and intransigent hostility to all dictatorships and superpowers.

--Bill Weinberg

EL BARRIO

Continued From Page 9

developers and advocates are paying attention to U.S. District Judge Laura Taylor Swain's rulings as the case moves toward a possible trial." What this means is there ZERO guarantee right now that East Harlem residents would be selected for any of the so called affordable units built under Mayor de Blasio and Speaker Mark-Viverito's plan.

DON'T BELIEVE THE MEDIA HYPE

Despite media reports to the contrary, residents are not interested in promises to lower income thresholds or raise the percentage of "affordable" units, especially since neither Speaker Mark-Viverito nor her staff will say – as a good faith effort – exactly how many units of low income East Harlem/El Barrio are about to be blown off the map! Everything that the predominantly low income Latin and African-American community cherishes: low rise buildings and open sky lines, public parks and plazas, community gardens – even NYCHA [New York City Housing Authority] lawns and playgrounds – will be up for grabs if Mayor Bill de Blasio and NYC Council Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito soon have their way.

Try as they might, Mayor de Blasio and Mark-Viverito have failed miserably in trying to sell their "gift to developers" by manipulating the press, ridiculing and demonizing critics, and "gas lighting" entire communities by insisting their plan was their idea.

Mayor de Blasio's housing plan is in fact the best (and only) deal he could wrangle from developers. Although his road to "One City" may have very well been paved with good intentions, the view from these forked streets has become even more depressing since November 8th.

How can Mark-Viverito promise to protect and defend her constituents when she's already accepted hundreds of thousands of dollars in contributions from developers, contractors, and real estate lobbyists?

For example: real estate developers have contributed more than $128,000 to Mark-Viverito's $779,966 campaign war chest. Other donors include contractors, real estate attorneys and lobbyists, political action committees, investment firms, and representatives from industries engaged in business with the city, such as: hospitality (taxi/limousine and hotels), technology, food services, big soda, waste management, law enforcement, and paper bag manufacturers. Curiously, 21 people from former Mayor Rudolph Guiliani's cyber security firm Greenberg Traurig LLP donated $6,450 to Mark-Viverito's campaign, and the firm's political action committee donated an additional $4,950.

In contrast, Mark-Viverito has only received $8,956 from 48 East Harlem donors, most of whom represent organizations that rely on the city for discretionary funding. Strangely, her brother Randolph Viverito has only donated one dollar to her campaign.

Next: following the money . . .

INVISIBLE GOV'T.

Continued From Page 15

writers who published the lie that Saddam Hussein had weapons of mass destruction.

To most of us, the American presidential campaign is a media freak show, in which Donald Trump is the arch villain. But Trump is loathed by those with power

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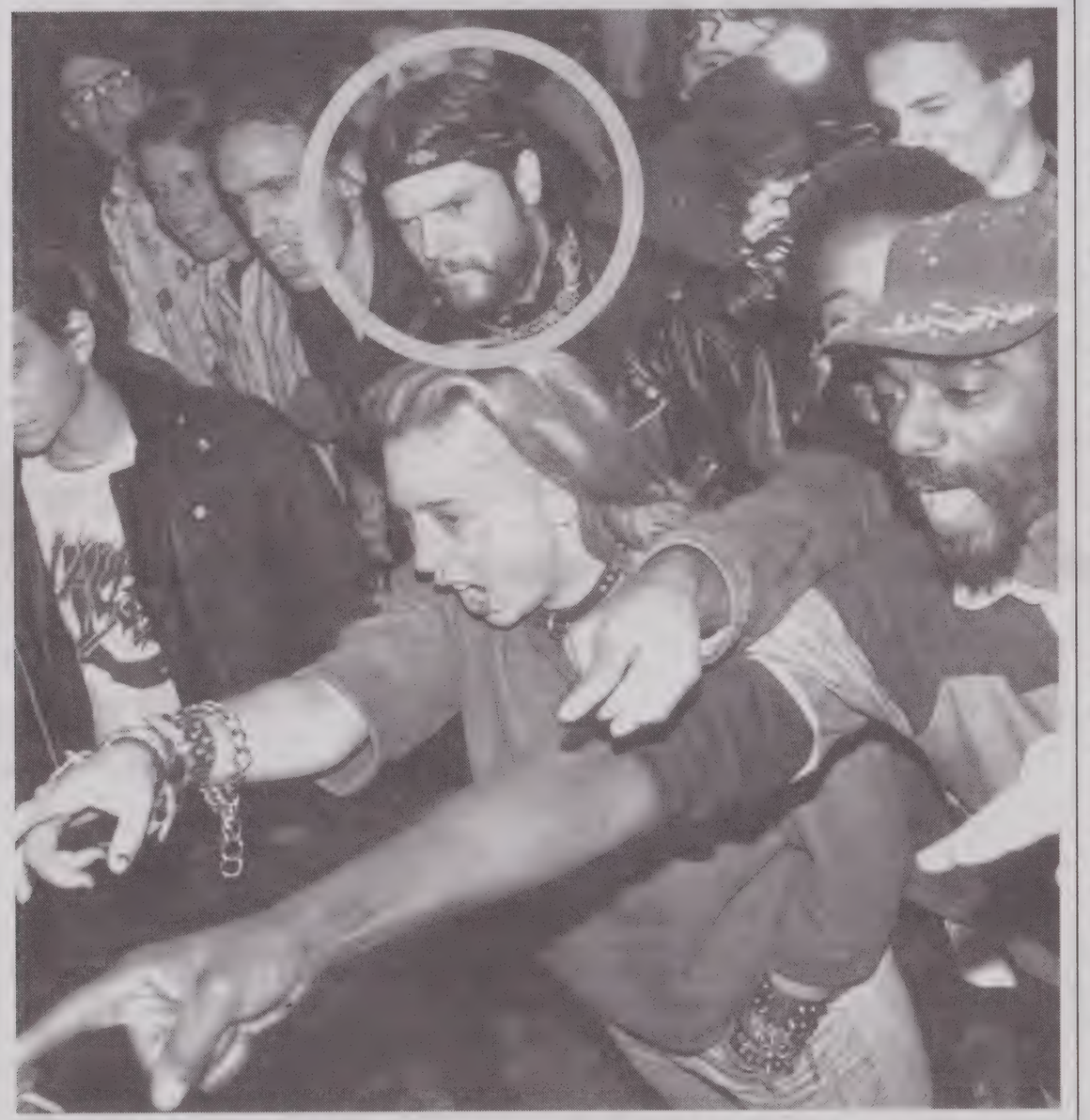

BOB McGLYNN (Circled) AT ONE OF MANY SKIRMISHES BETWEEN RIOT KOPS AND THE LES COMMUNITY IN THE EARLY 1990s (Corner of Ave. A and East 7th Street--Photo by Chris Flash)

BOB McGLYNN: STREET FIGHTER

I was really sad to hear of Bob McGlynn's death the guy left a lasting impression on me in 1989 when I was a 14 year old kid hanging out at Sabotage Bookstore on St

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To most of us, the American presidential campaign is a media freak show, in which Donald Trump is the arch villain. But Trump is loathed by those with power in the United States for reasons that have little to do with his obnoxious behaviour and opinions. To the invisible government in Washington, the unpredictable Trump is an obstacle to America's design for the 21st century.

This is to maintain the dominance of the United States and to subjugate Russia, and, if possible, China.

To the militarists in Washington, the real problem with Trump is that, in his lucid moments, he seems not to want a war with Russia; he wants to talk with the Russian president, not fight him; he says he wants to talk with the president of China.

In the first debate with Hillary Clinton, Trump promised not to be the first to introduce nuclear weapons into a conflict. He said, "I would certainly not do first strike. Once the nuclear alternative happens, it's over." That was not news.

Did he really mean it? Who knows? He often contradicts himself. But what is clear is that Trump is considered a serious threat to the status quo maintained by the vast national security machine that runs the United States, regardless of who is in the White House.

The CIA wants him beaten. The Pentagon wants him beaten. The media wants him beaten. Even his own party wants

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Without a shred of evidence, she has accused Russia of supporting Trump and hacking her emails. Released by WikiLeaks, these emails tell us that what Clinton says in private, in speeches to the rich and powerful, is the opposite of what she says in public.

That is why silencing and threatening Julian Assange is so important. As the editor of WikiLeaks, Assange knows the truth. And let me assure those who are concerned, he is well, and WikiLeaks is operating on all cylinders.

Today, the greatest build up of American led forces since World War Two is under way in the Caucasus and eastern Europe, on the border with Russia, and in Asia and the Pacific, where China is the target.

Keep that in mind when the presidential election circus reaches its finale on November 8th. If the winner is Clinton, a Greek chorus of witless commentators will celebrate her coronation as a great step forward for women. None will mention Clinton's victims: the women of Syria, the women of Iraq, the women of Libya. None will mention the civil defence drills being conducted in Russia. None will recall Edward Bernays' "torches of freedom".

George Bush's press spokesman once called the media "complicit enablers".

Coming from a senior official in an administration whose lies, enabled by the

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Bob was an archetypal anarchist street fighter. In fact, I have multiple vivid memories of being in the streets with Bob fighting cops with our friends during the 1989 Tompkins Square riots and in 1991 at the beginning of the first Gulf War. I remember getting arrested in Times Square for knocking over police barricades with Bob and getting my ass beat by cops in the station, repeatedly smacked to the ground from the back of my head.

Bob was a big, tough guy, and I was always little and scrawny. He definitely felt like a big brother. A few times I went with friends to his place in Brooklyn to train for street fighting. I was never much of a fighter, and I didn't follow Bob's path of physical badassery, but I know of a few other young guys who were part of my scene who really saw him as a role model and took after him. I'm sorry that I was probably still a teenager the last time I saw him, because I'm 41 now so that was a long ass time ago.

RIP Bob McGlynn. You left a mark and will be missed.

--Sascha Altman duBrul

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The CIA wants him beaten. The Pentagon wants him beaten. The media wants him beaten. Even his own party wants him beaten. He is a threat to the rulers of the world unlike Clinton who has left no doubt she is prepared to go to war with nuclear armed Russia and China.

Clinton has the form, as she often boasts. Indeed, her record is proven. As a senator, she backed the bloodbath in Iraq. When she ran against Barack Obama in 2008, she threatened to "totally obliterate" Iran. As Secretary of State, she colluded in the destruction of governments in Libya and Honduras and set in train the baiting of China.

She has now pledged to support a No Fly Zone in Syria a direct provocation for ed States in my lifetime" a distinction for which the competition is fierce.

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George Bush's press spokesman once called the media "complicit enablers".

Coming from a senior official in an administration whose lies, enabled by the media, caused such suffering, that description is a warning from history.

In 1946, the Nuremberg Tribunal prosecutor said of the German media: "Before every major aggression, they initiated a press campaign calculated to weaken their victims and to prepare the German people psychologically for the attack. In the propaganda system, it was the daily press and the radio that were the most important weapons."

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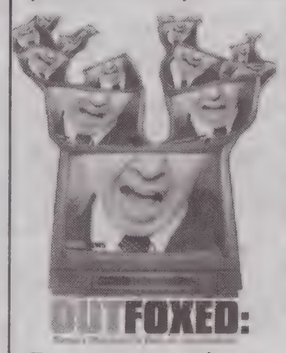

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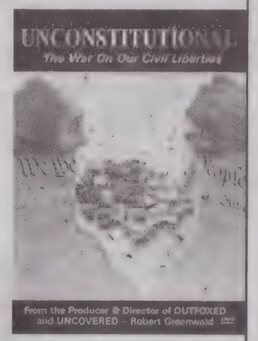

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• **TAKE OVER**: This 1990 documentary by Pam Yates and Peter Kinoy was shot simultaneously in eight U.S. cities on May 1, 1990 as homeless people risked arrest by occupying properties foreclosed by the Federal government. (DVD) $10.00.

• **YOUR HOUSE IS MINE**: This 2004 documentary by Caroline McCaughey covers the history of squatting in the Lower East Side of Manhattan from the early 1980's to 2004, as told by squatters and details the deal made by squatters with housing group UHAB to keep their homes. (DVD) $10.00.

• **WEAPONS OF MASS DECEPTION**: There were two wars going on in Iraq– one was fought with armies of soldiers, bombs and a fearsome military force. The other was fought alongside it with cameras, satellites, armies of journalists and propaganda techniques. One war was rationalized as an effort to find and remove Weapons of Mass Destruction — the other was carried out by even more powerful Weapons of Mass Deception. Put together by Danny Schechter "The News Dissector" of Globalvision. Highly Recommended! 98 min. (DVD) $20.00.

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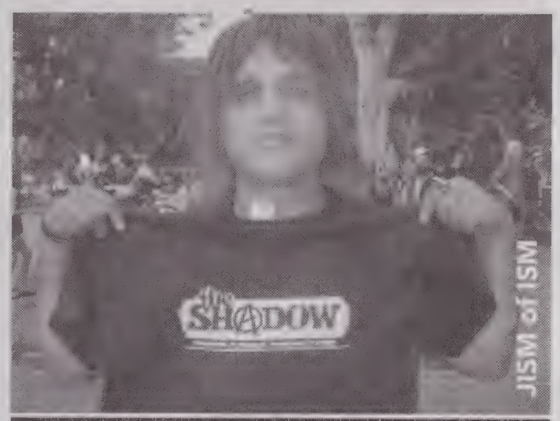

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• **GLOBAL OUTLOOK MAGAZINE (COLLECTORS EDITION):** This is one of the very few great investigative journals that exposes not only the truth behind mainstream media's lies and propaganda, but the methods by which the media and gov't operate, from disinformation to false flag operations. Includes: False Flag Operations: How wars are started by state-sponsored terrorism; Recognizing Historic Patterns of Deception; 55 False Flag Frauds; Was 9/11 a False Flag Operation?; Is the Economic Meltdown a False Flag Op?: A Guide To Surviving the Global Crisis. You can get this Collector's Edition for only $8.00. The cover price of this 295 page issue is $14.95!

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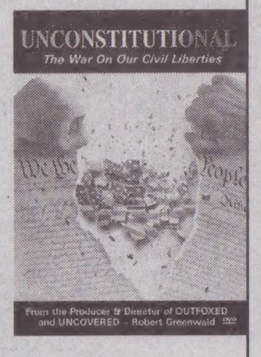

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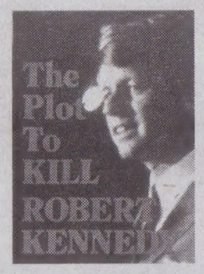

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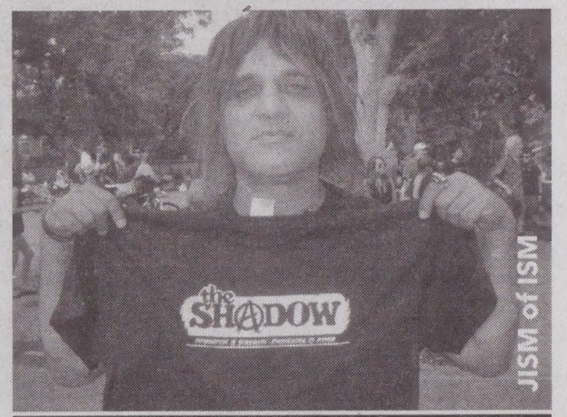

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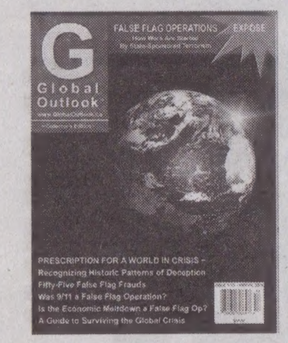

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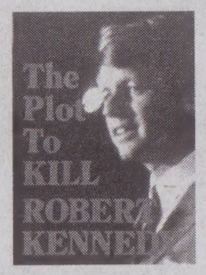

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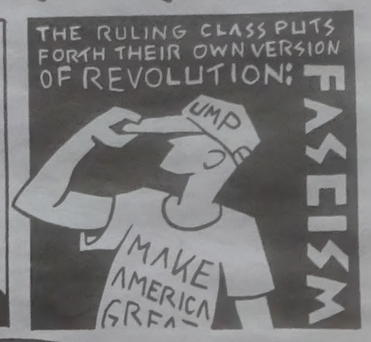

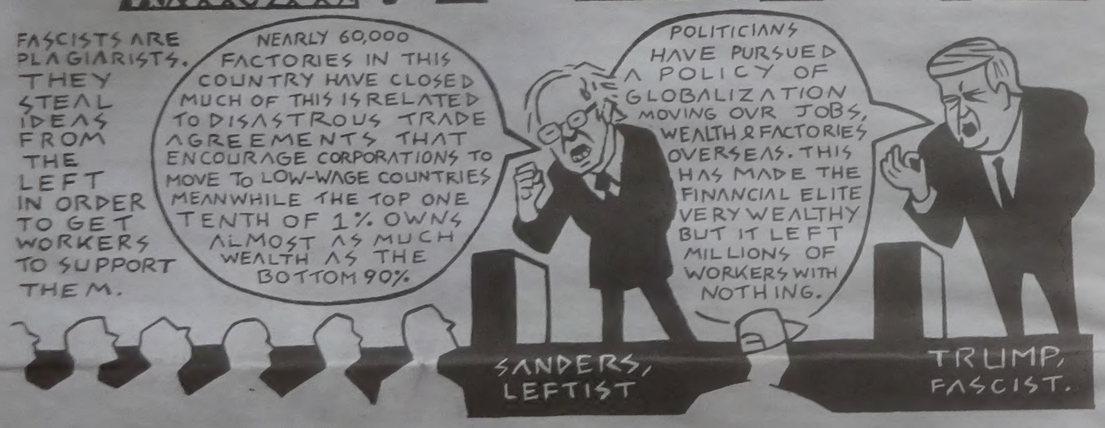

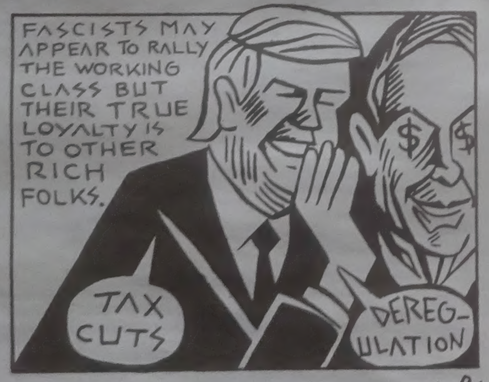

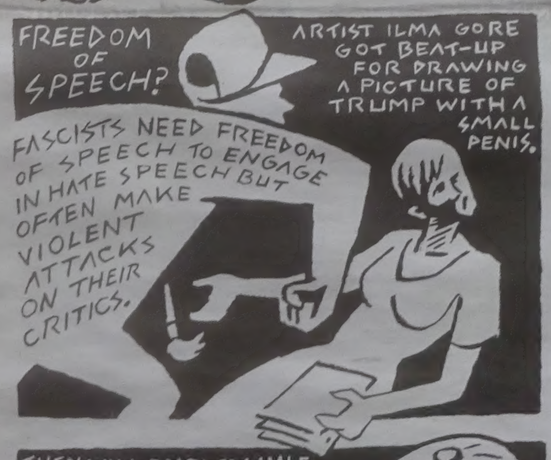

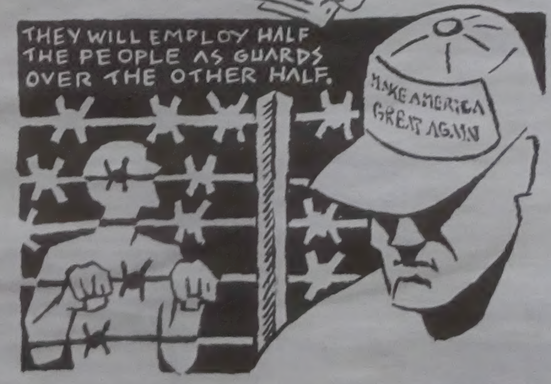

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